

ARMY

GAZETTE OF THE
REGULAR



NAVY

AND VOLUNTEER
FORCES.

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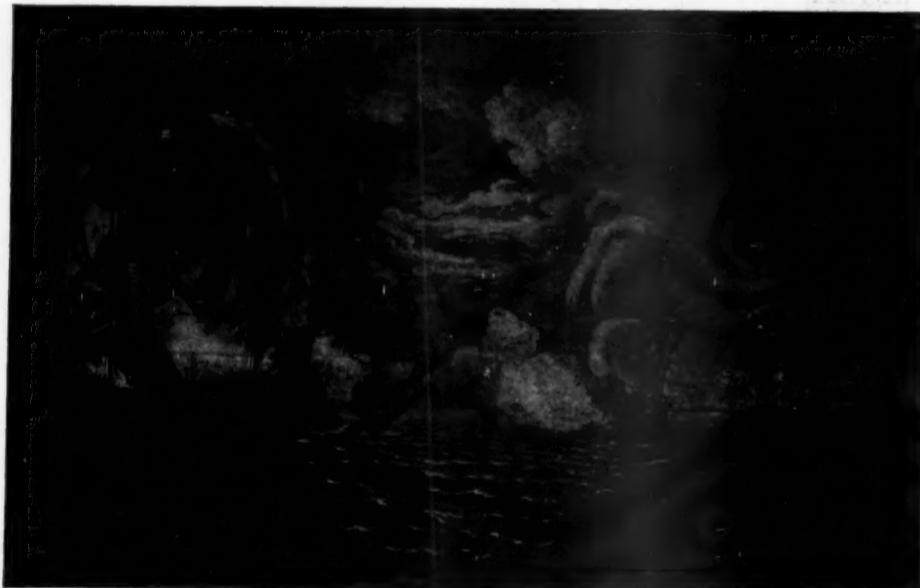
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COL SAMUEL T. CUSHING.

We are indebted to the New York "Tribune" for the portrait of another handsome officer of our Army, this time Col. Samuel T. Cushing, the prospective Commissary General of Subsistence. The "Tribune" says of Col. Cushing: "He was appointed to the Military Academy in 1855 from Rhode Island, and, being graduated in 1860, went immediately into the field during the Navajo war in New Mexico. He was the first regular officer detailed for duty with the Signal Corps of the Army at the outbreak of the Rebellion, and by transfer from the 2d Infantry was placed in charge of the camp of signal instruction at Red Hill, District of Columbia, where he taught the volunteer officers detailed from the Army of the Potomac, sending proficient men rapidly to the commands of Grant, Hallock, Buell, Thomas, Butler, Sherman, Banks, Pope and the others, where they acted as instructors, thus fully equipping the entire Army with a capable signal organization. Capt. Cushing in March, 1862, while Major Myer was with McClellan in the field, assumed the office of Signal Officer in Washington and directed the operations of the corps throughout the United States. Later he was Chief Signal Officer successively to Gens. McClellan, Burnside and Hooker, and at the battle of Fredericksburg, Va., he established the first line of magnetic telegraph ever used in actual war and exposed to the enemy's fire. After Chancellorsville he was ordered to West Point to initiate a course of signal instruction there and about this time he was recommended for appointment, at the



Col. Samuel T. Cushing.

age of 24, as Lieutenant Colonel of the Signal Corps, which had just been authorized by Congress. He declined the appointment as Major in the Signal Corps to accept that of Captain in the Subsistence Department, Feb. 9, 1863, the former being limited to the term of war and the latter in the permanent establishment. Early in 1864 he joined Gen. Thomas in Tennessee, and from that time he occupied the most important subsistence posts in Kentucky and Mississippi.

"After the war Col. Cushing was stationed in turn at Omaha, Neb., organizing the Department there; at Austin and San Antonio, Texas, as Chief Commissary; at Santa Fe, N. M.; Louisville, Ky.; Atlanta, Ga.; San Francisco and Vancouver Barracks, Washington. After serving in the field against the Bannocks he was stationed at Pittsburg in 1884 to relieve the Ohio River flood sufferers, and then he was sent to Texas, where he received his promotion to Major after a service of twenty-six and a half years as Captain, the last four of which he was Senior Captain of the Army. Since 1889 he served four years at Fort Leavenworth, then in Kansas City for a month to establish a depot there, and after a year at Omaha he was brought to Washington in May, 1894, where he has since been the principal assistant to the Commissary General. He became Lieutenant Colonel in November, 1895, and Jan. 26, last year, reached the grade of Colonel."

We may add that Col. Cushing served in the Manassas campaign as A. D. C. to Col. D. S. Miles, 2d Inf., commanding the reserve division, and as Acting Inspector General at the headquarters of Gen. McDowell. His first service was in the 2d Infantry, as Brevet 2d Lieutenant; Lieutenant and Captain of the 2d Infantry. He graduated at the Military Academy No. 30 in the class of 1860. Among his classmates who are still living are Horace Porter, James H. Wilson, the brilliant cavalry leader; James M. Whittemore, of the Ordnance; John M. Wilson, C. E.; Alex M. Pennington, Col. 2d Art.; Alfred T. Smith, Col. 13th Inf.; Wesley Merritt, Robt. H. Hall, Col. 4th Inf.; John N. Andrews, Col. 12th Inf.; William H. Jordan, Col., retired, and Josiah H. Kellogg, Capt., retired. Six of the class "joined in the rebellion" and of the others nineteen at least are dead. Whether Col. Cushing receives his commission as Brigadier General or not he is an excellent officer whose record is one worthy of mention. If he is promoted his class will have two representatives among the Chiefs of Staff Corps, besides a Major General of the Army, Wesley Merritt.

The sister of Rudyard Kipling is a novelist of more than average ability, and his father, Mr. John Lockwood Kipling, C. I. E., has made more than one contribution to literature.

THE ARMY BILL BEFORE CONGRESS.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN ROASTS CONGRESS FOR NEGLECTING THE ARMY.

The Army appropriation bill was reported to the House on Friday and debated during Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 17 and 18. Mr. Hull, chairman of the Military Committee, who had charge of the bill, explained that it carried the sum of \$23,185,002, an increase over last year of \$60,000 in round numbers. The pay proper item has been largely increased as the Army is now as near as possible to its maximum, having on an average only one man to a company short. Large reductions have been made in the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, for the reason that these two officers report quite a large surplus in their Departments, and a general reduction in every place where efficiency is not impaired by economy.

The statement we have seen made that there is no new legislation in the bill is not strictly correct. It contains this important proviso: "Provided, That the money herein appropriated for the payment of troops shall be paid to them by the Paymasters of the Army in person, except that small posts and detachments may be paid by check sent by registered mail, or currency sent by express." This is a partial return to the old system of payment. Mr. Hull explained that the Committee thought the Paymaster should be a bonded officer, and that it is absolutely important that in time of peace the Staff Departments shall carry on the business of their Departments as they would carry it on in the event of war; and there is not a man on the floor of this House who does not recognize the fact that in the event of war the Paymaster would have to make the payment direct to the individual soldiers.

A point of order was raised on this proviso by Mr. Sayers and it was sustained. Mr. Sayers said: "I would like to state the reason why I raise the point of order. I am informed that under the law which the clause in the bill would restore, the expenditure for the fiscal year 1895 was \$15,402.23; for the fiscal year 1896—that is when the present law began to operate—it was \$6,902.20, and for the fiscal year 1897, \$765.25. The present law is a great saving over the old law, and saves the traveling expenses of paymasters and their clerks, and also expedites the payment of the amount due the officers and soldiers."

Mr. Hull made no contention as to the point of order and admitted that the change would increase expenses about \$11,000.

A change has also been made by putting back under the Paymaster's Department the payment of all mileage. Under the Q. M. Department one lump sum is given for transportation of the Army. It is also provided that the Ordnance Department may admit free of duty material for the manufacture of sacks for artillery cartridges which cannot be had in this country.

Serious objection was made to this proviso and a lively debate upon it arose. In the course of it a letter was read from Col. James Gilliss, A. Q. M. General, U. S. A., in which he said: "It is presumed that a considerable sum is now being saved under the existing law. It is believed the present law is satisfactory to the Army. It is entirely satisfactory to all the railroads throughout the country, and they willingly accept the through rates, as they now have the evidence that the journey over the respective portion of each road is a continuous one. In view of the harmonious and economical working of the existing law and the extremely doubtful practicability of the Pay Department being able to carry out the proposed change, and for the reason that the Government would be denied the advantage, in many cases, of through rates which it now obtains, I recommend that Congress be asked to prevent the enactment of the proposed change, and the re-enactment of the existing law."

An amendment regarding the transportation of officers without troops was presented by Mr. Hull and was agreed to. It re-enacts the law as it was previous to the last appropriation bill.

In the debate on the bill, Mr. Cox, of Tennessee, made some mild objections to the system of promoting officers because of their approaching retirement and over the heads of those of longer service.

Mr. Gaines, of the same State, not to be behind him with objections, asked whether there was anything in the bill prohibiting the reprehensible practice of paying salaries to Navy officers who were also in the pay of armor plate manufacturers. When he was informed that this did not come into the Army bill he withdrew from the discussion.

Mr. Griffin answered some objections that had been made to the policy of retiring officers on three-quarters pay. He said: "When an officer is retired from the Army, he does not thereby cease to be a part of the military establishment of this country. The time may yet come, as I view the situation, when, instead of detailing those from the active list of the Army to give military instruction in schools and academies and institutions of learning, these retired Army officers who are under three-quarters pay may be assigned to such duties at their own request."

"In case, also, we should become involved in hostilities, it is not at all a vagary that we might expect some of these very same officers to come to the succor of the country and lend their experience and their peculiar and greater knowledge with reference to the conduct of war than perhaps some of the younger ones possess. It is not all lost by any means."

MR. McCLELLAN'S OPINION OF THE ARMY.

The principal speech on the bill was made by Mr. Geo. B. McClellan, who did not oppose, but improved the occasion to castigate his fellow Congressmen for not legislating more wisely on behalf of the Army. Mr. McClellan said:

"Mr. Chairman, I had hoped that this bill making appropriations for the support of the Army for the next fiscal year would contain some provision for the improvement of the Army, or at least some hint that legislation in the line of improvement was contemplated by the Committee on Military Affairs."

"To be of any use in war, our Army, in time of peace, should be, for its size, second to none on earth. It is unfortunately, very far short of this. It is very little better than a clumsily organized, inefficient, national police force, bound up with red tape, top-heavy with the gold lace of general officers, of so-called staff departments, and of staff officers, many of whom have never seen more serious service in actual warfare than that which falls to the lot of the average policeman."

"Whatever may be the shortcomings of our Army, they are not the fault of its officers. The present Major General Commanding was a gallant soldier in the late war, who has earned his present position by hard and meritorious service. The officers under his command are as fine a body of men as can be found in any Army."

"Year after year, ever since the Civil War, Secretaries of War and generals commanding have recommended to Congress the absolute necessity of a complete reorganization of the Army from top to bottom, and just as often as they have made the recommendation, just so often has Congress absolutely ignored it, sometimes because of motives of ill-judged economy, sometimes because of an entire lack of interest in the subject, sometimes because Congress has been occupied with what it has imagined were matters of greater importance than the national defense."

"It is certainly a pleasant sensation to think that we know more than all the rest of the world; and yet, when we find the Army of every other civilized nation on earth, with the exception of that of Great Britain, which is a hundred years behind the times, organized differently from ours, it would require even a greater self-complacency than that of which we are unfortunately sometimes guilty to believe that we are right and that they are wrong."

"Our infantry organization has been taken literally from that of Wellington in the Peninsula, and Wellington's was taken from Oliver Cromwell's new model, without a change. Our infantry organization was a very excellent one for the seventeenth century; but we are nearly in the twentieth century now."

"The three principal arguments in favor of a reorganization of the infantry are, first, the improvement in arms and ammunition; second, the impossibility of one officer commanding as many troops in extended order as he can in close order; and third, economy of officers."

"One of the chief defects of our cavalry is the quality of its horses. In European armies the remounts for the cavalry and artillery are purchased at private sale by Boards of officers specially qualified for the service, detailed from the arm of the service for which the horses are intended, and of veterinary surgeons."

"Our method of purchasing remounts is entirely different. They are purchased by contracts by the Quartermaster's Department. According to the last Army Register, that for 1897, there are in the Quartermaster General's Department 54 officers, of whom only 21 know anything whatever about horses. Of these 21, 10 were graduates of the Artillery School, and of the entire 54 only 1 was a graduate of the Cavalry and Infantry School, and he came from the infantry. The department purchasing our horses, the majority of its officers at least, can not, from their early experience, be expected to know the difference between a horse and a cow."

"The price paid for remounts during the past year bears me out in my assumption that the present methods of purchase are not altogether the best."

"During the past year alone the United States has paid over \$40,000 for the privilege of having its remounts purchased by the Quartermaster General's Department."

"The total number of horses purchased for the cavalry during the past year was 25 per cent. of the total number or horses in the cavalry. During the same period the total number of horses purchased for the Austro-Hungarian cavalry was a little less than 12 per cent. of the total number of horses in that cavalry. Our horses were in such poor physical condition that they required, in a majority of cases, six months in the hospital before they were fit for any work whatever."

"There is no doubt that our troopers are good rough riders, possibly the best in the world; but if the War Department is to be believed, there is equally no doubt that they are not good horsemen in the broad sense of the term and in the sense in which cavalrymen should be good horsemen."

In support of this statement Mr. McClellan quoted from the publications of the military information division as the official utterances of the Adjutant General's Office of the War Department.

Mr. McClellan was here questioned as to what remedy he proposed and a colloquy arose in the course of which it was contended that our Army had been paying \$100 to \$150 apiece for horses that ought to be bought for \$70 to \$75 or even, of the class used in the Army, for from \$50 to \$60.

Mr. Johnson of North Dakota. On the Western plains—for instance, in North Dakota—instead of paying \$150 for a saddle horse, you can get the finest actual working saddle horses in the world for \$10 apiece. Why, sir, a man not long ago went to Spokane and bought 4,000 horses for \$7 apiece. He shipped them to Hamburg, Germany, where 10 per cent. of them were sold as draft horses and the rest for conversion into Hamburg steaks. (Laughter.)

Continuing Mr. McClellan said: "It appears that there is not a single officer in our Army, so says the War Department, competent to teach riding as it should be taught! Upon its maneuvering power depends the efficiency of cavalry. The greatest factor in maneuvering power is the training of the men and horses. If we propose to continue not to train our men and horses, we might at least give our cavalry a flexible modern organization; but we have not done so, and there does not appear to be any disposition in Congress to do so. Experience has shown that the cavalry regiment should be much smaller than the infantry regiment. In Europe the cavalry regiment consists of three, four, five or six squadrons of about 150 each, the squadron being in practice the tactical unit. In our cavalry regiments the drill regulations provide for a fictitious squadron or organization, combining for the purpose two or more troops. This obviates some of the difficulties of our awkward organization, but in time of war would lead to endless confusion, for on a war footing the regiment would theoretically consist of 1,200 men divided into 12 small units, nearly double the number of men that can be readily handled as one regiment. It would require no additional expense, no increase in officers or enlisted men, to reorganize our cavalry so as to conform with modern methods and so as to conform with actual practice. We have five regiments of artillery, each composed of 12 batteries, of which 10 are—I was going to say equipped, but they are not equipped—of which 10 serve as fortress artillery and 2 are equipped and serve as field artillery. The designation of the batteries serving as field artillery is changed from time to time. This composite, and, to say the least, this most extraordinary organization of our artillery is defended on the ground that all our battery officers, if they be so fortunate as to live long enough and have the misfortune to remain in the lower grade of the service long enough, may, in the course of an unknown number of years, serve a tour of duty both in the field and in the fortress artillery."

"It is certainly a great compliment to the junior artillery officer to assume that he may become, in time, an expert in these two absolutely different branches of military science. Our fortress artillery is, or ought to be, a seacoast artillery, and will eventually be used for the purpose of manning the great guns which are to be mounted on these modern fortifications, which are to be completed, it is to be hoped, at some time in the future. The duties of seacoast artillerymen are really the duties of mechanics, and are as absolutely different from the duties pertaining to the field artillery as is the science of the seacoast battery from that of the field gun in action. In

(Continued on page 388.)

SYMPTOMS OF WAR.

It is becoming manifest that the Administration is satisfied that autonomy in Cuba is a failure and that it is making preparations to intervene. This was partly shown by the speech which Representative Hitt made in the House on Wednesday last, in which he intimated that the President proposed to forcibly interfere, and by the further Naval preparations, which have been made during the past ten days by Secretary Long, and which are still in progress. The North Atlantic Squadron hastened to Florida waters, arriving there on Thursday, and upon arrival they were joined by the battleship Maine. They then proceeded to Tortugas, while torpedo boats were kept at Key West to inform Rear Adm. Sicard of any need for help that might be cabled for by Consul General Lee.

But more significant than the arrival of the Squadron in Florida waters; than the orders to the Maine to be ready to proceed to Cuba at an instant's notice, are the orders which have been sent directing the retention of the gunboat Nashville on the Atlantic coast instead of proceeding to the European station as originally intended, the revocation of the orders of the gunboat Helena to proceed to the Asiatic station and her assignment to the European station; to the cruiser Cincinnati and the gunboat Castine, directing them to proceed to a northern point in Brazil in order that they might make a dash northward in case of emergency, and finally to Commo. George Dewey, directing him to have his vessels in readiness to promptly sail for the Atlantic when cabled for by the Department.

Familiar as the Navy is with the significance to be placed on orders to ships, the above instructions will be read with deep interest and appreciated. The Nashville will go to Port Royal to participate in "gunnery exercise." She will go farther south in case of emergency. The gunboat Wilmington will be kept just south of Cuba, and after completing her investigation at Navassa the Marblehead will go to Port-au-Prince. Practically two cruisers and three gunboats—the Cincinnati, Marblehead, Castine and Wilmington—are therefore available for duty on the south of Cuba, while the entire North Atlantic Squadron is available for duty to the north of Cuba.

Besides the above orders, Assistant Secretary Roosevelt has talked with the President in regard to the condition of the Navy and pointed out wherein it is efficient and defective. Mr. Roosevelt has also talked with Maj. Gen. Miles and with Acting Secretary of War Meiklejohn in regard to the co-operation of the Army and Navy in case of war. He has also discussed a Naval plan of campaign with Comdr. Richardson Clover, Chief of the Naval Intelligence Office. No doubt is felt that the result of Mr. Roosevelt's observations have been embodied in a plan of campaign, which will be used in case of war.

The "Journal" is not a jingo, but we would advise our readers to look out for grave developments in the near future.

Secretary Long has forwarded to the House Naval Committee a vigorous protest of Lieut. F. K. Hill, U. S. N., against the joint resolution restoring a number of officers to the Navy. Lieut. Hill says if all the discharged men again return to the line, a hump would be formed, but probably only such would come back as failed in civilian occupations. He urges that while the aim of good personnel legislation during the last few years has been to bring the young men forward sooner, yet the bill will retard from one to seven years the promotion of officers in the two lower grades.

Last week a great public work was finished and Maj. C. W. Raymond, U. S. Engrs., stationed in Philadelphia, in charge of the improvement of the Delaware River, notified Mayor Warwick that the improvement of the harbor of Philadelphia had been completed. The total cost of the work was \$4,342,652. Up to within a few years ago there was a large island in the Delaware River, opposite the principal business streets of the city, for six blocks or more, which was a greatly frequented summer resort. This has disappeared and every other obstruction has been removed, the total amount of dredging aggregating 21,750,000 yards, making a twenty-six-foot channel to the sea. This great work was begun by Maj. Raymond seven years ago, and his original calculation only varied from the actual amount by one-half of one per cent—a very remarkable result, showing his great ability as an expert engineer. There is at present at Philadelphia a thirty-foot channel for a width of 600 feet and for one thousand feet a twenty-six foot channel has been created. The authorities of Philadelphia are so highly pleased with the result that they are now endeavoring to obtain for the future a thirty-foot channel to the sea.

It is probable that soon after Secretary Alger's health permits him to take up the work of his office again, he will give attention to the subject of the rearrangement of the boundaries of the military departments which was under consideration about a year ago. Former Secretary Lamont went out of office without reaching any decision on the matter, and thus far during Secretary Alger's administration the subject has not been presented prominently for his consideration. The advisability of a rearrangement of departmental lines is believed by many Army officers to be of pressing importance, however, and some plan of readjustment will doubtless be adopted at an early date. No definite proposition is now being advanced, but the general principle upon which the rearrangement will be made is to have the headquarters as much as possible in the geographical centers of departments, due reference being made to the differences of distance resulting from facilities of transportation or the lack of them. No new departments will probably be created and the boundaries will probably not be radically changed. There is a disposition among many officers to favor a removal of the Western boundary of the Department of the East nearer to the coast, and some favor the extension of the Department of Texas to include some of the Gulf States. There are advocates of a plan to re-establish the headquarters of the Department of the Missouri at St. Louis instead of Chicago, and the replanning of the Department from that centre. A general discussion of the subject will be had by the Secretary and general officers and heads of departments before any defined plan will be formulated.

The advertisement on our second page announces that the "Army and Navy Journal" will receive subscriptions for "Scribner's Magazine" and Spear's "History of the Navy." We are quite willing to aid our readers in obtaining either, or both, of these very desirable publications, but to avoid delay we would suggest that it is better to send subscriptions direct to Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons, Nos. 153-157 Fifth avenue, New York. "Scribner's Magazine" is very strong this year in articles of interest to the Army and Navy, and he who does not read Mr. Spear's "History of the Navy" will lose much in the way of instruction and entertainment.

Secretary Long, accompanied by Chief Constructor Hichborn, Chief O'Neil of the Bureau of Ordnance, and Judge Advocate Gen. Lemley, appeared before the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs on Wednesday, and stated that bids had been invited for armor plate plant and would be opened Jan. 29. Secretary Long said also that, in view of the report of the committee which he had appointed to consider the question of a Government armor plant and their report upon the great cost and delay it would involve, he had entered into further negotiations with private armor plants now furnishing armor for other ships, and he believed that he could make a contract for the supply of armor plate for the Illinois, Alabama and Wisconsin, now under course of construction, to be ready whenever the ships are ready to receive it, at the rate of \$400 per ton. The Secretary recommended that, in view of the circumstances, an arrangement to this effect should be made.

Gen. Miles tells young McClellan through the New York "Journal," that he is mistaken in saying that our Army has no plan of action in case of war. It has plans, but they have not been divulged to civilians. Gen. Miles says: "In regard to the efficiency of the staff and line officers, I may properly say that I do not consider that any Army in the world has a better, more intelligent or more highly educated corps of officers than the Army of the United States. As to lack of actual experience, I think Mr. McClellan has not reckoned with the facts. The American Army has probably as many, if not more, officers who have been under hostile fire than any other military organization in the world. These officers have seen service in the late Civil War, and also in the many Indian campaigns. I hardly know what to call such service if it is not professional soldiering." However, Mr. McClellan has made an effective speech and we give him the full benefit of it in our columns this week. It is well to see yourselves as others see you.

The only question regarding increase in the Army bill, which the House passed on Tuesday, was that put by Mr. Simpson, who asked if there were any provisions in the bill for increasing the Army. Mr. Hull replied in the negative, saying that the committee could not introduce such a proposition in the bill because it would go out on a point of order. He said further: "I believe, and I think the majority of the people of this country believe, that the Army ought to be reorganized and enlarged. I believe that every patriotic American thinks that at least the artillery branch of the service should be increased to a size amply sufficient to take charge of our seacoasts defenses. Very few people are fearful that the army of even 100,000 could overawe 70,000,000 of people. But this is no bill where such a proposition can be introduced or entertained. The Army has always been the conservator of law and order; never the disturber of the peace. That we should have a reorganization, I do not think any one will seriously question. The conditions are such that this reorganization seems absolutely essential, even if no increase is made. If we had war tomorrow it would be impossible for the Government of the United States to line up our troops under the present organization."

Representative Hull, chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, has this week been in consultation with Acting Secretary of War Meiklejohn, Maj. Gen. Miles and other officers of the Army regarding legislation to effect the three battalion organization for the Army. Mr. Hull thinks the prospects are encouraging for the passage of the pending Lamont bill, which provides for the increase of the Artillery by two regiments. If this turns out to be impracticable at this session of Congress a substitute feature will be introduced, calculated to bring about a flexible three battalion organization without increasing the size of the Army. This will be to adopt the scheme of skeletonizing two more troops of cavalry as agitated recently, and the transfer of the men thus eliminated from the cavalry to the artillery. The number of officers would be adjusted to the three battalion plan, but four companies of each regiment would be skeletonized as regards enlisted men, to be filled up in case of war. Secretary Alger and Maj. Gen. Miles are strong advocates of the proposition, as well as many other officers of the Army. Adj. Gen. Breck is among the officers of high rank who oppose it. He is understood to hold that skeletonizing is illegal, and that the present organization is preferable in an Army like ours to be composed largely of volunteers in the event of war. Gen. Miles believes that officers on detached service of all kinds should be assigned to skeletonized companies. Gen. Breck is right. Whatever the argument for skeletonizing, it is, if not clearly illegal, a forcible straining of the law, such as should not be permitted in the military service.

Some comment has been created in Naval circles during the past week by reason of the failure of Representative Bouteille, chairman of the House Naval Committee, to introduce the personnel bill in the House. Mr. Bouteille informed the "Journal's" representative that he never introduced a bill unless he championed it. He said that the Navy Department had been informed that the bill had been referred to the appropriate sub-committee and that that body would consider it in due season. Representative Foss, the chairman of the reorganization sub-committee, said that his sub-committee will not give consideration to the Roosevelt personnel measure until the appropriation bill is out of the way. Mr. Foss explained that members of the sub-committee on personnel were also members of the sub-committee on appropriations and that their services were required in connection with the consideration of the appropriation bill. From what can be learned, Mr. Bouteille is not altogether pleased with the features of the Roosevelt bill, and he states that the most careful consideration must be given to any personnel bill before it is reported by his committee. Mr. Bouteille does not know whether hearings will be given or not, but it is generally believed that the Secretary and various officers of the service will be directed to report to the committee for the purpose of discussing personnel. Senator Hale has not yet introduced the Roosevelt bill in the Senate. He has had the measure prepared for introduction, however, and will present it in a day or so. Mr. Hale believes the bill has many good features and he will make an earnest effort to secure its passage.

Lieut. Col. Adna R. Chaffee, 3d Cav., director of the cavalry sub-school at Fort Riley, has offered a money prize of \$50 to the troop adjudged by three officers, to be selected by him, to have executed the motions of the manual of the carbine, manual of the saber and the saber exercises with the greatest accuracy and unison, in order of paragraphs of the drill regulations, at the tap of the drum, no other command or signal to be given except "ready" before its first tap, and the necessary commands to place the troops in order for the exercise.

The most conservative estimates by the passenger agents of the railroads to the Pacific coast put the number of people they will transport to the northward vessels at San Francisco, Seattle, Vancouver and Tacoma this year at not less than 215,000. In many localities in California the preparations for going to the Klondike next spring are almost as general and earnest as they were in Eastern localities for men going to the war in the early sixties. It is certainly time that Congress should take some action to give Alaska a stable and efficient government.

The New York "Evening Post" attacks our Hydrographic Office and Naval Observatory on the ground that they are spending money needlessly as the unfortunate diminution of American ocean commerce and the substitution of steam for sail has greatly diminished the value of their work. The "Post" says: "The British government publishes nautical almanacs and admiralty charts as good as we can make, which are largely bought and used by other maritime nations, and which our navigators can buy at a lower price than our government can make them. Is it sound policy to spend as much money as we do in duplicating them, when our declining commerce will not be in the smallest degree stimulated thereby?"

Lieut. Gen. John M. Schofield, replying to Senator Morgan's inquiry as to the statements that have been made regarding the General's opposition to the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, has written a letter to the Senator under date of Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 12, in which he says: "From the time, twenty-five years ago, when I made a personal examination for the purpose of ascertaining the value of those islands to this country for military and naval purposes, I have always regarded ultimate annexation of the islands to this country as a public necessity. * * * We must accept the islands and hold and govern them, or else let some other great nation do it. To fail now to carry into effect our own great national policy upon the first occasion offered to us would, in my judgment, be one of those blunders which are worse than crimes."

The Navy Department has received a cablegram from the Nicaraguan Canal Commission, asking that Civil Engr. A. G. Menocal be allowed to remain five weeks longer with the commission, as there is still important work for him to do in connection with the canal enterprise. There is reason to believe that Secretary Long will deny the request, but will announce that after preliminary court martial proceedings have been inaugurated Mr. Menocal will be allowed to return.

Movements of U. S. Navy vessels were reported from the Department on Jan. 21 as follows: The Nashville sailed from Fort Monroe for Port Royal; the Wilmington sailed from St. Lucia for St. Vincent; the Ericsson was at Port Tampa; the Foote sailed from Charleston for St. Augustine; the Fern passed Jupiter Inlet; the address of the Foote is Key West; the Winslow will join the flotilla; the Castine and the Cincinnati are ordered to Bahia.

The President has withdrawn the nominations of P. A. Paymrs. Edwin B. Webster and George W. Simpson to be Paymasters in the Navy. This action is due to a cablegram received from Capt. Chester, commanding the S. Atlantic station stating that Webster has been found morally unfit for promotion. Simpson has qualified for promotion.

In an interview recently published, Maj. Gen. Wesley Merritt said: "I cannot agree with Congressman McClellan's reported remarks about the lack of a capable staff corps in the Army. Our staff is organized on the basis of evolution and is the best the world has ever seen. In regard to the reorganization of the Army on a European model as is advocated, the scheme would be impossible under present conditions. Here we have a little Army of 25,000 men, against the hundreds of thousands in the German army. All things considered I think our Army will compare favorably with any similar organization in the world."

Maj. J. F. Weston, C. S., said: "If there is any one thing that needs reforming more than another it is the harmful system of allowing men with a pull to obtain appointments in the Army through political influence. The Army will be all right when put on a purely military basis, and placed by law beyond the interference or control of politicians. Too many Congressmen talk for effect about military affairs when they are misinformed, if not entirely ignorant of these subjects."

The law requires that the Secretary of War shall report on or before Dec. 6, 1897, "the most practicable and economical plan for the care and preservation of the fortifications and their armament." In response the Assistant Secretary sends a letter from Gen. Miles, dated May 4, 1897, giving a list of twenty-four unmanned places where batteries and detachments of artillery will be required by Dec. 31, 1897, and saying: "I have the honor to submit that, in my judgment, there can be no practicable or economical plan for the care and preservation of fortifications and their armament except a suitable command of artillery composed of skilled officers and soldiers who understand the manipulation of the machinery required to move and traverse and use these high-power guns and mortars skilfully and successfully. In my opinion it would be criminal for the Government to expend tens of millions of dollars in the placing of fortifications and armament for the protection of our coast, and then abandon them to the care of a few men, simply employed as watchmen without any knowledge or power to man these guns and mortars successfully against hostile fleets. The only plan that, in my judgment, can be submitted to Congress is that as far as the present force of artillery can be used it will be utilized by batteries and detachments to care for and man the high-power guns and mortars as they are placed in position. To properly, practically, economically do this the number of guns and mortar batteries that will be in order by December next would require at least seven regiments, the minimum number of artillery. I call especial attention to the fact that no troops are now stationed at these places, where they are imperatively required." The conditions of cost may remain substantially unchanged. Gen. Miles's letter is the one incorrectly referred to under our heading of Congress as of the date of May 4, 1894.

The 5th U. S. Cavalry in Texas have been on the move this week, Capt. Thomas's Troop D going from Sam Houston to Ringgold; Capt. Michler's Troop H, from Ringgold to Clark; Capt. Paddock's Troop F, from Sam Houston to Brown; Capt. Wheeler's Troop G, from Brown to Sam Houston and Capt. Swift's Troop C from Clark to Sam Houston.

Senator Platt of New York gave notice in the Senate Jan. 18, of an amendment he would propose to the Naval appropriation bill. It authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to contract for a period of twenty years for the docking of Naval vessels in a steel floating dry dock of a specified model to be maintained in New York Harbor. The Government is to use the dock 100 days a year for \$90,000 per year.

In a letter addressed to Hon. John A. T. Hull, chairman House Military Committee, Jan. 11, Paymr. Gen. Stanton states that the total of soldiers' deposits under the act of June 30, 1897, has been \$9,765,003.65, on which \$706,642.40 has been paid in interest at four per cent. The average deposit has been \$52.74, and the average interest \$4.48. There was remaining on deposit July 1, 1897, \$1,281,389.63. The depositors number 185,149 and of these 157,711 have been paid.

Representative Hilborn, senior member of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, will introduce in the House in a few days a resolution providing for a Congressional investigation of the alleged defective construction of Dry Dock No. 3, at the New York Navy Yard. Mr. Hilborn thinks that the policy of letting work to the lowest bidder was responsible for the bad condition of the dock, as the men who took the contracts had had no previous experience in dock building. A Congressional investigation, it is believed, will be beneficial in showing a method of construction that should be adopted in the building of docks in the future.

Police Commissioner Avery D. Andrews, of New York City, whose term has just ended, describes, in "Scribner's" for February, the elaborate machinery which is necessary to poll the vote of Greater New York—not the part that has to do with election officers, but the police control of the whole—which involves the distribution of ballots, the preservation of peace, and the collection of returns. The vote of Greater New York exceeded the aggregate of eleven States, as polled in 1896 for President. Mr. Andrews is Engineer Officer on the staff of the 1st Brigade, N. G. N. Y., with the rank of Major, and was lately 1st Lieutenant, 5th Artillery, U. S. A.

The Daily Arizona "Journal," referring to the late Lieut. Sawyer Blanchard, 1st U. S. Art., who died at Whipple Barracks, last Christmas day, says: "Mr. Blanchard was a very popular man with his fellows both in and out of the Army, and counted his friends in great numbers. He had a happy, cheerful disposition and was full of noble generosity. Every one felt better and happier by coming in contact with him, and he has left a void in the lives of his friends which never can be filled. In his sickness he showed great strength of character, suffering silently, bearing bravely all pain, which indeed was not little. His home was in New Hampshire, near Concord, where his mother, Mrs. Sarah F. Blanchard, now resides."

As a result of the recent agitation of the alleged frauds in the pension roll of the United States many letters have been received by Commissioner Evans from persons who are drawing pensions, either asking that they be dropped from the rolls or that they be re-examined with a view to having their ratings reduced. In explaining their requests some of the writers state that the disabilities for which their pensions were granted have been removed, or that they are so financially situated that they do not need the pension. Others write that they believe they are receiving more pension than they are truly entitled to, and ask to be ordered before an examining board in order that their true rating may be determined.

When Rear Adm. George Brown, U. S. N., retired, he said that he was "going to Indianapolis, the prettiest city in the world, to live," and placards have recently been hung in the street cars of the city setting out the Admiral's words in big type. The Admiral has not found Indianapolis the Eden he imagined it to be, or rather, as in the case of the original Eden, the serpent has entered his paradise in the shape of a law suit in which he has been involved with a neighbor named Thomas, who handled somewhat too roughly a son of the Admiral, who had been guilty of the boyish freak of putting snow down the back of his neighbor's daughter. Adm. Brown believed that the separation was accomplished with more force than necessary, and filed an action for assault against Thomas, who was fined. Thomas has come back to the Admiral with an action for assault against his son.

A case pending in the Court of Claims which will be followed with much interest by naval officers is that of Comdr. John N. Quackenbush, U. S. N., retired, against the United States, to recover pay from Aug. 1, 1883, till June 1, 1895, at the rate of \$2,300 per year, and from June 1, 1895, till May 26, 1897, at the rate of \$2,625 per year. The case of Comdr. Quackenbush is well known in naval circles. By a mistake his name was dropped from the rolls and was not restored till February of this year. The act of restoration provided for the reappointment of John N. Quackenbush, as Commander, as of date Aug. 1, 1883, and placed him on the retired list from June 1, 1893, with the proviso that he should receive no pay or emoluments except from the date of the reappointment. It is held by Comdr. Quackenbush that the date of his reappointment is Aug. 1, 1883, and he claims pay from that time. His counsel, Attorney John Paul Jones, of Washington, has filed a long brief in the Court of Claims in support of the petition. The defense has as yet filed no brief.

The New York "Times" says: "If Maj. Louis H. Rucker, 4th Cav., be, as we suppose, the son of Gen. Daniel H. Rucker, he has a hereditary aptitude for talking and acting sensibly about questions of transportation and supply. For Gen. Rucker, then himself Maj. Rucker, of the Quartermaster's Department, was the officer who had at least as much to do as any other officer with organizing the Quartermaster's Department of the Army of the Potomac in 1861, and, indeed, with preparing the system of transportation and supply which was one of the main achievements of the Union Army during the war. However that may be, Maj. Rucker's report upon the condition of affairs in the Yukon basin is evidently by far the most trustworthy exposition of the condition of affairs in the Klondike that has been received. This official report is worth any number of pages of sensational and irresponsible newspaper correspondence. It gives Congress something to go upon, and we have no reason to doubt that the action of Congress will be prompt and effectual."

A dispatch from Panama reports Civil Engr. Menocal as saying: "I have no doubt as to the outcome. I was supervisor, but had several assistants, and could not personally supervise all the work day and night. The drilling was done in very treacherous land, and the leak resulted probably from this work. It could not have been foreseen. The contractor is an honest man. After the work was completed and successfully tested, and he had been paid, and the contract cancelled and leak occurred, he wrote to the Navy Department, offering to repair the damage." Mr. Menocal's explanation will be that he was inspecting work at Key West when the work was done which resulted in the leak.

The Charleston "News and Courier" tells us that Battery C, 1st Art., is still pleased with Sullivan's Island and with Charleston in spite of their heavy work in mounting guns. The officers have become well and pleasantly known in Charleston, and the men generally are getting acquainted and are making friends all around. No move has been made by the Government, so far as can be seen, for the building of barracks yet, but it is well understood that they will be put up in a hurry when the work does begin. Capt. Hubbell having obtained a month's leave of absence, has gone to Florida to join his family. Lieut. Harlow is now in command of the garrison, with Lieut. Hagood as first officer.

Maj. H. O. S. Heistand, A. A. G., U. S. A., and Lieut. Comdr. T. S. Phelps, U. S. N., have been selected to represent the Government in the entertainment of President Dole of Hawaii, now in this country. Jan. 19 Mr. Dole was taken to the Presidio on a revenue cutter by Lieut. R. H. Noble, A. D. C. to Gen. Shafter, and there witnessed a review of the troops. A salute was given by the batteries at Alcatraz Island as the cutter passed. In the evening he left in H. E. Huntington's private car over the Central and Union Pacific and Northwestern for Chicago, where Government officials will receive him. It is expected that on his arrival at Chicago troops from Fort Sheridan will escort him to his hotel and that a guard of honor, with a complement of staff officers, will also be detailed to wait on President Dole while in the city and to escort him to the train on Sunday.

A sub-committee of the House of Representatives, of which Congressman Bull is chairman, will go to Annapolis soon and make a personal investigation of the condition of the buildings to ascertain the actual needs of the Academy. The people of Annapolis are much disturbed by the possibility that they may lose the Academy and the City Council promptly waited upon the Governor of Maryland and recommended that the State purchase property adjacent to the Academy, in the rear of the marine barracks, and present it to the general Government. Also that the Assembly pass resolutions favoring Senator Gorman's bill to establish a dry dock at Round Bay and deepen Annapolis Harbor. The Governor expressed his assent to these propositions and promised to communicate his views to the Legislature. He said that such a gift to the Government would settle the agitation if the people of the State could be brought to believe that for the removal of the Academy, which takes place from time to time, he has no doubt every taxpayer would favor the appropriation. The spokesman of the committee was Capt. John Mullen, U. S. A., retired.

PERSONALS.

Capt. G. D. Fitch, C. E., U. S. A., arrived in New York from Europe Jan. 19 on the steamship *Fürst Bismarck*.

Lieut. William Weigel, 11th U. S. Inf., who was reported last week as having registered at the A. G. O., Washington, D. C., has not, we are informed, been in that city since the spring of 1897.

1st Lieut. John B. Bennet, 2d Inf., A. D. C., is designated to perform the duties of Engineer Officer at the Department of Columbia headquarters, relieving 1st Lieut. William S. Graves, 7th Inf., A. D. C., to whom he will receipt for all public property pertaining to that office.

The following officers of the Navy registered at the Navy Department this week: Lieut. T. W. Ryan, on leave; Comdr. Charles S. Sperry, of the New York; Asst. Paymr. J. J. Cheatham, of the Alliance; Lieut. Comdr. P. Garst, of the Terror; P. A. Engr. F. W. Kinkaid, of the Terror; Pay Dir. L. S. Billings, General Inspector of the Pay Corps; Lieut. Comdr. T. S. Phelps, Jr., on leave; B. S. Richards, on leave.

Miss Minnella Alexander, daughter of Col. Charles T. Alexander, U. S. A., was married Jan. 19, to Mr. Arthur Delano Weeks, at the residence of her parents, 47 East Fifty-third street, New York City. The Rev. Dr. John Wesley Brown, rector of St. Thomas's Church, performed the ceremony, and the bride was given away by her father. There were no bridal attendants, and the ceremony was witnessed only by the relatives of the couple and a few intimate friends. After the ceremony there was a reception from 4 until 6 o'clock.

The following officers of the Army registered at the War Department this week: 1st Lieut. W. H. Johnson, 16th Inf.; 1st Lieut. D. L. Tate, 3d Cav.; Maj. J. A. Augur, 4th Cav.; 2d Lieut. Robert Sewall, 7th Cav.; Capt. G. S. Birmingham, Q. M. D.; Lieut. Col. J. M. Coates, 16th Inf.; Maj. W. H. Bixby, C. E.; 1st Lieut. G. H. Cameron, 4th Cav.; Capt. A. H. Bowman, 9th Inf.; Capt. Geo. K. Hunter, 3d Cav.; Capt. Geo. F. Chase, 3d Cav.; Capt. J. C. Ayres, O. D.; Maj. F. H. Phipps, O. D.; 1st Lieut. Julius A. Penn, 2d Inf.; Capt. Luigi Lomia, 5th Art.; Col. J. G. C. Lee, Q. M. D.; 1st Lieut. R. L. Bullard, 10th Inf.; 2d Lieut. A. W. Drew, 12th Inf.; Maj. E. G. Fechét, 6th Cav.; Maj. W. W. Gray, Med. Dept.; 1st Lieut. J. W. Watson, 10th Cav.; Lieut. Col. Wm. Ludlow, C. E.

We reported recently to the pleasant wedding at Vancouver Barracks, on Jan. 5, of Lieut. R. H. Allen, 14th U. S. Inf., to Miss Minnie Anderson, daughter of Col. T. M. Anderson, of that regiment. The "Oregonian" says: "At 8 p. m. the band of the 14th Infantry struck up Mendelssohn's 'Wedding March,' and the bridal party entered the church. The four ushers, in full uniform, led, followed by the bridesmaids, Miss Carrie Merriam, Miss Alice Montgomery, Miss Anderson, Miss Bessie Anderson, the maid of honor; Miss Ermengard Anderson, and the bride on the arm of her father. At the altar they were met by the groom, Lieut. H. G. Learnard, best man, and Chaplain L. R. Groves, U. S. A., who performed the ceremony. The bride wore her mother's wedding gown. It was of white satin duchesse, with mouseline de soie trimmings, and a court train. After the ceremony a reception was held at Col. Anderson's quarters. The guests were received by Col. and Mrs. Anderson and the bridal party, standing before the flags of the regiment. The refresh-

ment table was presided over by Miss Wolverton, Miss Butler and Miss Houghton.

Lieut. Geo. R. Evans, U. S. N., has been appointed an instructor on the school ship St. Mary's, vice Lieut. J. D. McDonald, detached.

Col. Thomas F. Barr, Asst. Judge Adv. Gen., U. S. A., is a recent transfer from the New York to the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

Capt. E. L. Zalinski, U. S. A., visited Governors Island and on the evening of Jan. 19, and conducted some interesting experiments in rocket firing.

Lewis Nixon, late U. S. N., has been appointed one of the six commissioners of the new East River bridge; salary \$3,000. It is an excellent appointment.

Miss Lizzie Sherman, daughter of the late Gen. Sherman, will sub-lease her flat at the Portland, Washington, D. C., and will join her sister in Europe.

Gen. Nelson A. Miles, in the last "Forum," writing on Coast Defense, names Col. James A. Frye, as having contributed the best literature extant on the subject.

There are now 3,000 old soldiers seeking admission into the Soldiers' Home for whom there is no room. A new Home now building will provide for 2,500 of them.

Miss Florence Marryat, who has contributed no fewer than seventy novels to the library of romance, is a daughter of the author of "Peter Simple" and "Jacob Faithful."

Lieut. M. C. Richards, U. S. A., residing at Syracuse, N. Y., for some time past, will shortly go to Peekskill, N. Y., to take charge of the military department at the Academy there.

Mrs. and Miss Holcomb, mother and sister of Lieut. Holcomb, of the Navy, are in their own house, 1908 Sunderland Place, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Holcomb is still a great invalid.

The following Naval cadets of the fourth class, Naval Academy, have resigned: Albert T. Rich, of Massachusetts; Joseph S. Lindsay, of Kentucky; LeRoy Brooks, Jr., of Ohio; Kelley D. Alsop, of Mississippi.

Lieut. Col. W. E. Waters, Dep. Surg. Gen., retired, and Mrs. Waters, who have been staying at 1016 Vermont avenue, Washington, D. C., have left for Lake Worth, Fla., where they will remain the rest of this winter.

Before the Woman's Press Club, of Cincinnati, Jan. 8, Mrs. O'Connell, of San Francisco, wife of Maj. O'Connell, U. S. A., read a paper entitled "Our Young Alcides of To-day, or Society Toughs." It was a series of sketches of modern society.

The statement that Gen. Johnson Hagood, who died at Barnwell, S. C., Jan. 4, was the father of Lieut. Johnson Hagood, 1st U. S. Art., is incorrect. The deceased was an uncle of Lieut. Hagood, whose father, Col. Lee Hagood, died in 1890.

Mrs. Capt. Stephen Y. Seyburn has decided to be at home on Tuesday afternoons, and her parlors were filled with her friends up to a late hour. Although having been in Washington only a short time, Mrs. Seyburn has become most popular with the smart set.

Army and Navy arrivals at the Ebbitt House, Washington, D. C., for the week ending Jan. 19, were: A. W. Drew, U. S. A.; R. L. Bullard, U. S. A.; W. W. Gray, U. S. A.; Maj. E. G. Fechét, U. S. A.; Wm. N. Tisdall, U. S. A.; J. A. Penn, U. S. A.; A. H. Bowman, U. S. A.

Mrs. Nelson A. Miles had another crowded Tuesday afternoon at her home on Rhode Island avenue, Washington, D. C. She was assisted in receiving her friends by her cousin, Miss Lizzie Sherman. Miss Hoyt, of New York, niece of Mrs. Miles, poured tea, and Gen. Miles came in later to welcome their many friends.

Miss Lizzie Sherman has rented her flat at the Portland, Washington, D. C., to Mr. and Mrs. Calvin R. Nutt, of Frederick, Md., and is now visiting Miss Marie Patterson, 1100 Vermont avenue, Washington, D. C., before going to Europe, where she will join her sister, Mrs. Thackard, who is so well remembered in Washington as Miss Ellie Sherman.

Capt. R. H. Pratt, 10th U. S. Cav., superintendent of the Indian Industrial School at Carlisle, Pa., in his 18th annual report to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, gives some very interesting information concerning the work. Several illustrations, showing interesting portions of the school, outside and inside, etc., are bound with the report.

Savannah, Ga., has not had so many regular Army officers of rank within its borders at one time for some years past; one Brigadier General, Otis; two Colonels, Barr and Kline; five Majors, Stanton, Woodruff, Myrick, Tieron and Patten; and four Captains, Taylor, Mills, Penney and Strong; besides other officers called to the city in connection with the Carter court martial.

The friends of Mrs. Lane, who was formerly Miss Lucretia Blackburn, are glad to hear that she is much better and her physicians say she will recover. Mrs. Lane was accidentally shot while removing a pistol from her bureau drawer, at the Hotel Wellington, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Lieut. Col. Hall is a sister of Mrs. Lane. They are both daughters of ex-Senator Joe Blackburn, of Kentucky.

Officers of the Navy lately visiting in New York City are: Asst. Paymr. J. J. Cheatham, Chief Engr. E. Laws, Grand Hotel; Capt. F. J. Higgins, New Amsterdam; Lieut. J. J. Knapp, the Gerlach; Chief Engr. A. J. Kiersted, Normandie; Comdr. C. H. Stockton, Surg. A. F. Magruder, Paymr. E. N. Whitehouse, Albemarle; Paymr. T. S. Thompson, Gilsey House; Lieut. J. T. Newton, Sturtevant House.

The fact that Col. Hamilton S. Hawkins, 20th U. S. Inf., will be retired for age on the 13th of next November, has already given rise to sundry speculations as to who will succeed him as commandant of the Infantry and Cavalry School. The two officers most prominently mentioned are Col. J. N. Andrews, 12th Inf., and Col. Jacob Kline, 21st Inf. As a matter of information, we may state, however, that the War Department has not, as yet, given consideration to the matter.

The Confederate Veteran Camp of New York is to give its eighth annual dinner on Jan. 22, at the St. Denis. This year the dinner is given in memory of "Stonewall" Jackson, and the toast "Gen. Jackson" will be responded to by Dr. Hunter McGuire, of Richmond, Va., formerly Medical Director on Jackson's staff. The toast "Our Home, Greater New York," will be responded to by Lieut. Gov. Timothy L. Woodruff, and "Albert Sidney Johnston" by Hugh S. Thompson, ex-Governor of South Carolina.

The officers of the Army on court martial duty at Savannah, Ga., are the recipients of many attentions, including invitations to the clubs. The Savannah "Morning News" says: "Interest in the proceedings from day to day has been unabated. The court room in the space allowed the public has been crowded every day, and many well-known Savannahians have spent hours there from day to day listening with interest to the proceedings. A military court is a new thing to the people of this section, at least to the present generation, and its appearance is imposing enough to invite much interest and attention."

Lieut. F. W. Kobbe, 23d U. S. Inf., is a recent arrival at Fort Ringgold, Texas.

Lieut. E. St. J. Greble, 2d U. S. Art., rejoined at Fort Adams, R. I., Jan. 18, from a short leave.

Col. J. C. Lee, Asst. Q. M. Gen., U. S. A., left Chicago, Ill., Jan. 13, to spend a month on leave.

Lieut. J. K. Cree, 3d U. S. Art., has rejoined at Fort Monroe, Va., from a few weeks' visit to Meadville, Pa.

Maj. G. B. Rodney, 4th U. S. Art., Commandant of Fort McHenry, Md., rejoined there Jan. 18 from a short leave.

Chaplain I. N. Ritner, U. S. A., who has been on sick leave since July 7 last, is at present located at 548 N. 16th street, Philadelphia.

Lieut. H. C. Schumm, 2d U. S. Art., has rejoined the Fort Adams, R. I., from a few weeks' visit to friends at Frankford Arsenal, Pa.

Lieut. E. D. Anderson, 10th Cav., on four months' leave since Dec. 10 last, has for present address, care A. G. O., Washington, D. C.

Col. O. H. Ernst, Superintendent of the U. S. M. A., is preparing to leave there early next week to spend a month's vacation with his family.

Lieut. W. K. Wright, 16th U. S. Inf., lately on leave in Frankfort, Ky., has reported to Governor W. O. Bradbury for duty with the Guard of that State.

The engagement is announced of Miss Mary Lilian Snyder, daughter of Col. Simon Snyder, 10th U. S. Inf., to Lieut. James Ronayne, of that regiment.

Capt. Madison M. Brewer, Asst. Surg. U. S. A., on four months' leave from Fort Keogh, since Nov. 9 last, is visiting at 2928 P street, Washington, D. C.

Capt. J. C. Ord, 25th U. S. Inf., who has been visiting in Nashville, Tenn., since October last, is expected to join at Fort Missoula, Mont., early in February.

Lieut. F. M. Savage, 15th U. S. Inf., on duty at Fort McPherson, Ga., since his promotion, left there Jan. 11 to join his regiment at Fort Bayard, New Mexico.

Commo. J. A. Howell, Lieut. J. J. Knapp and Chief Engr. H. S. Ross, U. S. N., sailed from New York for the Mediterranean Jan. 15 on the steamship Werra.

Capt. John McE. Hyde, Asst. Q. M., U. S. A., returned to Boston, Mass., this week from a short but pleasant visit to friends at New Rochelle and New York City.

Col. J. W. Clous, U. S. A., and Mrs. Clous, left Savannah, Ga., Jan. 18, for St. Augustine, Fla., where they will make a short sojourn with headquarters at the Alcazar.

Lieut. Henry De H. Waite, U. S. A., retired, formerly of the 5th U. S. Cavalry, and now practicing law in Toledo, Ohio, has recently been elected president of the University Club of that city.

Chaplain G. A. Crawford, U. S. N., retired, is at present filling the position of treasurer with the Megunticook Mining and Milling Company, whose officers are in Seac's Building, Boston, Mass.

Capt. J. G. Ballance, 22d U. S. Inf., on duty at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., contributes to the "Students' Directory" some interesting remarks on the subject of military instruction in colleges.

Baron Alfonso D'Abelé, Capt. of the 7th Lothringen, who died in Graz, Austria, Dec. 23, 1897, was a son of Field Marshal Baron D'Abelé, an uncle of Mrs. O. V. Kautz, widow of Lieut. Kautz, U. S. A.

The Senate Committee on Library has reported favorably on the bill providing for a large representation of Indian tribes at the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition at Omaha, between June 1 and Nov. 1, 1898.

Col. Wm. Kirk, a well-to-do veteran of Ward County, W. Va., publishes a card criticising the assaults upon the pension rolls, and offering \$100 for each case of fraudulent pension with evidence sufficient to prevent its payment.

Paymr. E. N. Whitehouse, U. S. N., arrived in New York from France, Jan. 17, on the steamship Normandie.

Capt. H. K. Bailey, 5th U. S. Inf., has rejoined at Fort McPherson, Ga., from a month's visit to Bridgeport, N. J.

Capt. F. A. Kendall, U. S. A., Chief Engr. H. S. Ross, U. S. N., and Lieut. J. J. Knapp, U. S. N., and Mrs. Knapp were passengers on the steamship Werra which sailed from New York for Genoa via Gibraltar and Naples, on Jan. 15.

The marriage Jan. 18, at Fort Grant, Ariz., of Lieut. Edward L. King, 7th Cav., to Miss Nancy Yose Sumner, daughter of Col. Edwin V. Sumner, 7th Cav., was doubtless a brilliant affair, but the full account has not yet reached here from that distant station.

Comdr. Dickins, U. S. N., and Mrs. Dickins, entertained at dinner recently at their residence in Washington, D. C., Misses Long, Hill, Ward, Humphreys and Hubbell, Lieuts. Lanchester and Ward, Mr. Crowninshield and Representative C. G. Bennett, of New York.

By direction of President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, the National Military Band gave a concert on the evening of Jan. 17, at Managua, in honor of Rear Adm. J. G. Walker, Professor Louis Haupt and Col. P. C. Hains, the Nicaragua Canal Commissioners of the United States.

Charles H. Cramp, president of the Cramp Shipbuilding Company, who is at the head of a recently incorporated enterprise to operate a line of steamers in the Klondike trade from Seattle to Dawson City, denied today a report from Newport News, Va., that the Cramps will establish a shipbuilding plant at Seattle.

The following is the bill of fare at a complimentary dinner given by the officers' mess recently to Lieuts. Michie and Martin, visitors at Columbus Barracks: Oyster patties, deviled eggs, Saratoga chips, chicken salad, olives, lettuce sandwiches, chocolate with whipped cream, Neapolitan ice cream, lady fingers, angel squares, macaroons.

Surg. Gen. G. M. Sternberg, U. S. A., contributes to the January number of "Appleton's Popular Science Monthly" an article on The Black Death, the pestilential disease which prevailed so extensively in Europe in the Middle Ages, and which caused an enormous loss of life. This disease is now believed by epidemiologists to be identical with the bubonic plague of the Orient.

An Austin (Texas) dispatch says: The many San Antonio and Austin friends of Lieut. Alfred W. Drew, of the regular Army and also Aide on Governor Culberson's staff, will no doubt be surprised to learn that on Jan. 19 he will lead to the altar Mrs. Charlotte Ward Gregg, of Washington. Lieut. Drew is well known in San Antonio and Austin society and is popular wherever known.

Army officers lately visiting in New York City are: Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard, the Buckingham: Capt. A. H. Bowman, the Windsor; Col. D. L. Magruder, Imperial; Surg. Gen. G. M. Sternberg, the Marlborough; Lieut. C. P. Echols, Lieut. D. L. Tate, Lieut. J. W. Hinkley, Jr.; Lieut. L. H. Lewis, Lieut. D. E. Aultman, Maj. L. J. Lloyd, Grand Hotel; Lieut. E. V. Bookmiller, Murray Hill; Maj. R. L. Hoxie, Grand Union.

Capt. Charles L. McCawley, U. S. M. C., has been assigned as an assistant to Col. Theo. A. Bingham, C. E., U. S. A., in the management of the official receptions at the White House. Lieut. J. C. Gilmore, Jr., 4th Art., will continue to act as Col. Bingham's principal assistant in the social duties at the Executive Mansion.

Governors Island has been a fairly lucky station for some of the higher officers of the Staff Department. Gen. Hawkins went from there to Washington, a few years ago, to be Commissary General, Gen. Ruggles to be Adjutant General, Gen. Breck to be Adjutant General, Col. Corbin to be Adjutant General, and Col. Ludington will go to be Quartermaster General.

Col. Dallas Bache, Asst. Surg. Gen., U. S. A., being about to leave Omaha for duty in Washington, D. C., the "Excelsior" says: "He goes to an important and interesting post, for which he, by his literary inclinations and other gifts seems to be especially fitted. We shall be sorry, however, to lose him and his estimable wife, whose work has been so efficient in Trinity Cathedral, where they will be much missed.

Col. Asa Bird Gardiner, U. S. A., made an address at the meeting in New York, Jan. 18, of the Mary Washington Chapter, Daughters of the Revolution. They had assembled to participate in the ceremonies incident to the unveiling of a bronze tablet which had been placed upon the wall of the Broadway corridor on the ground floor of the Postoffice Building in commemoration of the shedding of the first patriot blood of the Revolution.

Capt. Alfred Morton, 9th U. S. Inf., who was retired for age on Sunday, Jan. 16, served with great efficiency and credit during the war in the California Volunteers, rising to the rank of Major. He was mustered out in March, 1866, and the following July he was appointed 2d Lieutenant of the 9th U. S. Infantry, so that he has served with his present regiment almost thirty-two years. In tendering our good wishes, we express our regret that he could not have been retired as Major Morton.

Col. Ludington, Asst. Q. M. Gen., Chief Quartermaster, Department of the East, Governors Island, has received many congratulations from his legion of friends on account of the good news that the President would promote him on the retirement of Gen. Weeks next month to the Quartermaster Generalship of the Army, a promotion to which he is entitled by seniority, long service and executive ability. Col. Ludington is one of the most courteous gentlemen in the Army and is universally esteemed.

Lieut. Comdr. Charles T. Forse, U. S. N., commanding the U. S. coast survey steamer Endeavor, at Baltimore, Md., on Jan. 3, received a cane, which he highly prizes. The handle is made out of one of the copper bolts which held the timbers of the U. S. S. Kearsarge. Capt. Forse was executive officer of the ship when she founded on Roncador reef. When afterward he was sent to wreck the vessel, he possessed himself of the bolt, which has been turned into a handle for a cane. Upon the bright copper is a splendid carving of the Kearsarge.

The New York "Herald" spins a yarn about the unexpected appearance of Comdr. Belden, Lighthouse Inspector at Key West, with the lighthouse tender Marigold, carrying a party of ladies, among a party of men from the U. S. S. Marblehead, who were in the water bathing after coaling ship. "Unconscious of the presence of the men in the water, Comdr. Belden approached the landing with his party of fair excursionists. Suddenly the launch was among the bathers, who scrambled out of the way." Capt. McCalla ordered the launch away from the wharf and the ladies beat a hasty retreat.

Miss Julia Marlowe, now acting in her new play of the "Countess Valeska," at Wallack's Theatre, is a young actress who fills a warm place in the hearts of lovers of the romantic school of acting. She has the soft beautiful eye, the tender mouth and youthful grace that fit the heroine of a love scene, while the play of bright expression on her very mobile face shows as well the wit of Rosalind as the tenderness of a Juliet. Miss Marlowe may not yet be "cribbed, cabined and confined" by all the rules of dramatic art, but she is a very delightful actress whom it is good and pleasant to see, for she has art enough to make her natural gifts fit well the roles best suited to them.

A Washington correspondent of the New York "Evening Post" tells us that "the Commissioner of Indian Affairs has taken much interest in the work which Capt. W. A. Mercer of the Army has been doing as Acting Agent for the Omaha and Winnebago Indians in Nebraska. Capt. Mercer's record as Acting Agent of the La Pointe Chippewas in Northern Wisconsin is a fine one. He showed his ability to straighten out snarled accounts and titles, and set his wards up in legitimate industry. He is a kind man, but firm, and those Indians who are ready to take his advice and go to work for their living find him a sympathetic and patient taskmaster. If he is authorized by the Indian Office to bring order out of chaos on the Omaha and Winnebago reservation and given a broad discretion, he may be trusted to do a satisfactory piece of work."

The Burlington (Vt.) "Free Press," referring to the recent fire at Winooski, says: How the troops of the 3d U. S. Cavalry from Fort Ethan Allen worked and the assistance they rendered the town of Winooski can tell, and they appreciated the labors of the men from the post. Capt. Hardie and Lieut. Raymond handled Troop G, Capt. Ripley, Lieuts. Merrillat and Williams Troop E; Capt. Johnson and Lieut. Dade, Troop C, while Troop F, the hose company, were marshalled by Capt. Dodd and Lieut. Moses. As soon as imminent danger was over hot ginger tea, coffee, and other hot drinks were dispensed by appreciative citizens to the boys in blue who had worked so faithfully in the preservation of life and property. The friendship of the citizens and the soldiery through this aid of the garrison at Ethan Allen will thus be more firmly cemented than ever, for the better classes of the town showed in every manner possible their appreciation of the labors in their behalf.

1st Lieut. Arthur Murray, U. S. A., who, as the Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Yale University has had unusual opportunities for observing the conduct of its undergraduates, in a letter to the New York "Sun" says: "As a regular Army officer of nearly twenty-five years' service I have had sufficient practice in observing men under the influence of liquor to become qualified as an expert in the matter of detecting signs of intoxication, and that as a cadet for four years at the United States Military Academy, an institution justly celebrated for the rigor of its disciplinary methods, and as an instructor and assistant professor at the same institution for five years, I have had ample opportunity to form some conception of what constitutes good conduct on the part of young men. It gives me pleasure now to be able to state that in the year and a half I have been on duty at Yale, with the opportunities above enumerated for observing the conduct of its students, it has been a matter of constant wonder to me how such a number of young men as are here congregated, with so little to restrain them other than their own sense of manliness and honor, should be so remarkably well behaved. I can hardly conceive of a more exemplary set of young gentlemen than the students of Yale who have come under my observation."

MAJOR MASON CARTER.

The Atlanta, Ga., "Constitution" of Jan. 10 has a long and very complimentary notice of Maj. Mason Carter, of the 5th Inf., who retires Jan. 26. It says: "His retirement will take away from the 5th Regiment and the troops of the United States one of the bravest and most courageous men that have spent a lifetime in the service and one of the few who have risen from the ranks to Brevet Major. Maj. Carter is a Georgian, having been born in Augusta sixty-four years ago. He spent a large part of his early life there, and at the outbreak of the war in 1860 enlisted as a Private in the 1st Inf., U. S. A. In the early part of the war he was wounded at Springfield. From this time his promotion was steady and for surpassing bravery during conflicts and self possession at times of great danger, he received ready recognition from his superior officers.

"While engaged at the front during the fighting among the New Perces Indians, of which the famous Joseph was chief, he was decorated with a medal by an act of Congress, Sept. 30, 1877, for meritorious conduct. Maj. Carter greatly prizes this token of recognition of his services. He was breveted Major on Feb. 27, 1890. "Maj. Carter, for his many acts of unusual bravery during the Indian campaigns has received almost a national reputation.

"After receiving his official discharge he will go immediately to New York, where he will make his future residence. Maj. Carter says that although he regrets to leave the Army for some reasons, yet after thirty-eight years of active service he feels that he has enough."

The "Constitution" quotes from the reports of Gen. Miles and Maj. Baird, descriptions of the Indian fights in which the Major was engaged, and in which he won great distinction.

THE SAILORS' SNUG HARBOR.

The trustees of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, at their meeting held in New York last week (Friday) appointed Lieut. Comdr. Daniel Deleahanty, U. S. N., governor of that institution, to succeed Capt. G. D. S. Trask. He has obtained a leave of absence for one year to take the place. The salary is \$6,000, and there are various perquisites attached to the office, such as a house and grounds, horses, etc. Lieut. Comdr. Deleahanty is not only well and favorably known to the Navy, but also in the city of New York, where he served for three years as supervisor of the harbor. The trustees of this wealthy institution have shown wisdom in selecting an officer of the Navy for its Superintendent. Among its inmates are several officers formerly of the Navy, whom misfortune has overtaken, and the character of the inmates as a whole requires that the head of the institution should be one who understands the needs and the characteristics of sailor men.

The election began with the presentation of ten names of candidates endorsed by the Marine Society. These were all old shipmasters and all were voted down. Rear Adm. Erben, who was anxious to see a man of naval education in charge, had suggested Capt. James Parker, late of the Navy, for the place, and found himself in consequence, somewhat in the position of John Alden when he asked for the hand of Priscilla Mullens on behalf of his friend Capt. Myles Standish. The main purpose of the Admiral had in view has been accomplished by the selection of an officer of the Navy, though it is difficult to see how the place can be held indefinitely by an officer on the active list of the Navy.

We are sure that Lieut. Comdr. Deleahanty's administration will be such as to justify his selection and induce the trustees to place it permanently under the control of the Navy, as it should be. The New York "Herald" says: "Some of the trustees considered that Adm. Erben was just the man for the office, and consequently his name was proposed, but, inasmuch as he had already told President Orr that he was not a candidate, Lieut. Comdr. Deleahanty was chosen upon an informal ballot. Lieut. Deleahanty is a Democrat. He is a brother-in-law of Senator Edward Murphy, and his niece is the wife of former Mayor Hugh J. Grant. He married Miss Washington, of Virginia, a collateral descendant of the Father of his Country. The Lieutenant's father was one of the best-known merchants of Albany, and was at one time superintendent of the Capitol Building. The new governor was born in this city."

FORT MONROE, VIRGINIA.

Old Point is sorrowing for the departure of the fleet which forms such a large part of its social life that the harbor without even one battleship in sight is a dismal prospect indeed. Before sailing dinners were given on the New York by Flag Lieutenant Harlow for Mrs. R. P. Davis, and Mr. Palmer for Miss Clemmons.

The bachelors' building in the garrison has also been the scene of several gay little gatherings this week, when teas were given for Miss Clemmons by Lieuts. Lyon and Squires, and for Mrs. Davis by Lieut. Shipton.

The weather has been so warm until now that all outdoor sports have been indulged in largely and the golf links have daily been occupied by enthusiastic golfers making a very picturesque scene in their gay costumes.

The military colony at the Fort is greatly exercised over the nomination of John B. Kimberly to be postmaster at the post, and a vigorous fight against his confirmation is expected from Southern Senators. The candidate of the Army officers stationed at the post, and of most of the civilians who receive their mail at that office, is the present acting postmaster, Mrs. Nannie Jones. Kimberly is a merchant at Fortress Monroe, and his chief supporters are Baltimoreans with whom he has business relations and who have prevailed upon Postmaster General Gary to secure his nomination.

Mrs. Jones has been connected with the Fortress Monroe postoffice for three years, and she has received the unqualified endorsements of the Army people at the Fort, from Col. Royal T. Frank, the Commandant, down. Nevertheless, when the President a few days ago sent to the Senate the name of John B. Kimberly to succeed Booker, and it is understood that the Postmaster General recommends his appointment rather than that of Mrs. Jones on the ground that she is the widow of a Confederate officer. On the other hand, it is claimed by the opponents of Kimberly that he never voted the Republican ticket in his life and could not get the endorsement of the people at Fort Monroe, who are perfectly satisfied. Mrs. Jones has written to Secretary Alger, explaining the situation and requesting him to lay the matter before the President, in the hope that he may recall the nomination of Kimberly, whose confirmation is now held up.

Consul O'Hara, at San Juan del Norte (Greytown), Nicaragua, in a report to the State Department, says that the gunboat Newport landed seventy negro laborers at that place to work on the Nicaragua Canal survey.

WEST POINT.

West Point, N. Y., Jan. 17, 1898.

The Ladies' Card Club met as usual on Tuesday afternoon. The Musical Club met at Capt. Gordon's quarters on Wednesday evening. Miss Elsie Gordon executed a piano solo and took part in a duet with Mrs. Cassatt; violin solos were given by Mr. Essigke; vocal solos by Lieut. Hazzard and Lieut. Babcock; a piano solo by Mrs. Hunter; Mrs. King, Lieut. Smith and Lieut. Smedberg joined in a trio, "mandolin and guitar, and a recitation was given by Lieut. Lindsey.

A dinner was given on Wednesday evening by Prof. and Mrs. Tillman, at which the guests of honor were Col. and Mrs. Hein. On Thursday a ladies' luncheon was given by Mrs. Tillman. In the afternoon the Ladies' Reading Club met at the quarters of Prof. Michie. Miss Michie read a paper on "Pierre Loti."

On Thursday evening a card party was given by Mrs. Gordon.

On Friday afternoon the ladies of the post met to organize a Sewing Society at the quarters of Prof. Michie. Mrs. Michie was elected president, and Mrs. Gordon vice-president of the organization.

Mrs. Todd received the guests at the cadet hop on Saturday evening, assisted by Cadets Williams and Comly. Among the visiting guests present were the Misses Kelly, of Newburgh; Van Ness and Lefferts, of New York; and Miss Greene, of Philadelphia, sister of Mrs. Todd.

Relatives of Cadets Cook and Van Duyne spent Sunday at the post as guests at the hotel.

Mrs. Lusk and Miss Elinor left on Monday, Jan. 17, for Plainfield, where Capt. Lusk, who is detained at the post on court martial duty, will join them, and the greater portion of Capt. Lusk's leave will be spent in Mississippi.

Mrs. Ryan, who has been visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Torney, left for Washington last week.

The Ladies' Card Club will meet on Tuesday afternoon of this week at Mrs. Spurgin's.

The next officers' hop of the series will be held on Thursday evening of the present week, Jan. 20.

A card party, the guests of which will include the young ladies of the post and a number of the bachelor officers, will be given by Miss Davis on Friday evening.

On Saturday afternoon a cadet german will take place and a concert will be given in the gymnasium in the evening.

We are pleased to learn that Cadets Tidball and Haskell, E. E., of the 3d Class, who were found deficient at the recent examination, have been granted a "turn back" to the 4th Class.

The appointment of Corporals to fill the places made vacant by these two cadets has been announced: Cadets Hillman and Watson, of the 3d Class, have received the appointments.

At the election of Class Officers of the 3d Class, held recently, the following cadets were re-elected: Class President, Walter Schuyler Grant; vice-president, George B. Pillsbury; secretary and treasurer, Lewis S. Morey; athletic representative, Fred. C. Doyle. The following cadets were elected hop managers: George B. Comly, Robert F. Jackson, Upton Birnie, Jr., Samuel R. Gleaves, Jerome G. Pillow, Charles M. Wesson.

Edmund M. Rhett tendered his resignation as hop manager previous to the re-election.

Miss Shipman is a guest of her brother, Chaplain Shipman.

The Hundredth Night Entertainment will be held this year on Feb. 19.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

Annapolis, Jan. 16, 1898.

The following is the table of weights determining general excellence in the divisional competition for the battalion flag, Naval Academy: Seamanship, 100; infantry, 100; artillery, 100.

Target Practice, 100.—45, divisional great guns; 5, first medal great guns; 45, divisional small arms; 5, first medal small arms.

Rowing, 100.—45, first crew, eight oar; 35, second crew, eight oar; 20, cutters.

Football, 100.—45, Academy team (fifteen men); 20, Hustler team (twenty men); 20, division team; 5, long punt; 5, drop kick; 5, place kick.

Field and Track, 55.—5, 100-yards' run; 5, 220-yards' run; 5, 440-yards' run; 5, 880-yards' run; 5, one-mile run; 5, pole vault; 5, broad jump, running; 5, high jump; 5, long jump; 5, 16-lb hammer; 5, 16-lb shot; 5, 220-yard hurdles.

Sailing, 50.—25, cutters; 15, launches; 10, catboats.

Baseball, 30.—20, division team; 5, throwing baseball; 5, batting.

Fencing, 25.—10, Intercollegiate team; 5, foils; 5, sabers; 5, canes. Presentation Sword, 20. Thompson Trophy, 20. Gymnasium, 15.—5, boxing; 5, wrestling; 5, swimming.

The cadets are down to hard work, preparing for the semi-annual examination that begins on Saturday, Jan. 24. While as many cadets in the aggregate may have been warned that they were not satisfactory in their studies, yet the large number of first classmen is somewhat unusual. The "boning" will save some from resignation after the examination is passed, but there will probably be thirty cadets out of the seventy-eight who were recently warned, who will fail to pass.

As the "unsatisfactory" pass out of the Naval Academy, a new set of young men are already preparing to take their places. No less than twenty candidates are already here, preparing for admission to the Naval Academy, the examination for which does not commence until May.

The Naval Cadet hop on Saturday night was well attended. Mrs. Shipley, wife of Lieut. J. H. Shipley, assisted by Naval Cadet Walter G. Roper, of Georgia, received.

Pvt. Thorburg, of the Marine Guard, Naval Academy, is awaiting sentence by court martial for malicious destruction of property.

Pay Dir. and Mrs. J. D. Murray gave a reception on the 17th inst., in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Shellman B. Brown.

Miss Nellie Reeder, of Annapolis, daughter of Lieut. Reeder, U. S. N., is visiting Miss Nettie Wicks, of St. Paul street, Baltimore.

FORT HAMILTON, N. Y. H.

Capt. and Mrs. Andruss gave a most delightful card party in the assembly rooms on Friday evening last. The hall was beautifully decorated with flags and rugs, and about forty guests enjoyed playing "high five." The prizes were handsome and elegant, and at 12 o'clock a most delicious supper was served. A very jolly little hop was given last week in the assembly room. Among those present were: Maj. and Mrs. Ramsay, Mrs. Rodgers, Maj. and Mrs. Maus, the Misses Maus, Capt. and Mrs. Andruss, Capt. and Mrs. Thorpe, Capt. and Mrs. Carson,

Capt. and Mrs. Hills, Capt. Poindexter, Lieut. and Mrs. Hancock, Lieut. and Mrs. Straub, Lieuts. Whistler, Irwine, Carbaugh, Callan, Summerall, McNeil and Hills, and quite a number of guests from Bay Ridge. Maj. and Mrs. Ramsay, and Lieut. and Mrs. Straub, each entertained with a hop supper afterwards.

The ladies of the garrison held a meeting at Mrs. Maus's in regard to giving a series of hops. They decided to have them every two weeks on Thursday evenings.

Mrs. Rodgers, wife of Dr. Rodgers, of the Navy, has been the guest of her uncle, Maj. Ramsay.

Wednesday Lieut. and Mrs. Straub gave a very pretty dinner and had for their guests Capt. and Mrs. Thorpe, Capt. and Mrs. Carson, Lieut. and Mrs. Hancock, and Lieut. and Mrs. Irwin.

FORT BLISS, TEXAS.

Fort Bliss, Tex., Jan. 14, 1898.

Lieut. Nathaniel McClure left the post last week with an escort on a two weeks' hunting expedition in New Mexico.

Lieut. Haydon Grubbs, who has been quite ill, is again to be seen out of doors, much to the pleasure of his friends.

The last of the week was pay day, and as always was quite welcome.

Work is being done on the new wagon road between the post and El Paso. The entire road, a distance of something over four miles, is contracted to be completed within or before ninety days.

Lieut. Percival Lowe, while training for a game of football to be played with a team from Las Cruces, N. M., accidentally fell with one leg twisted underneath him, and while in this position one of the team fell over him and the added weight caused quite a severe sprain which it is feared will take some little time to heal. Lieut. Lowe is at present in the hospital at the post.

Mrs. Clarence Bailey returned yesterday from a several weeks' sojourn in Chicago and was warmly welcomed home by her many friends.

Gordon and Philip Macomb, sons of Capt. Macomb, spent the holidays hunting in New Mexico, where there are any amount of quail, rabbits and deer.

Mrs. McClure entertained Mr. and Mrs. Waters Davis and Miss Florence Beall, of El Paso, and Dr. Willcox at dinner this week.

Charlie Womm, son of Bandmaster Womm, is confined to his home with a case of measles.

The first touch of winter weather this season came the first of the week, and for several hours wind, snow, sleet and rain rained with each other for the mastery. All finally yielded to the wind, which blew a gale all day directly from the north.

Lieut. Sawyer Blanchard, 1st Art., who died recently in Arizona, spent last winter in El Paso in search of health. He was well known at the post, where he was a frequent visitor.

Tuesday night quite a large hop was given complimentary to Lieut. Grubbs on his recovery from his recent illness. Those present were Capt. and Mrs. Macomb, Capt. and Mrs. Steel, Mrs. Ward, Lieut. and Mrs. Lewis, Lieut. and Mrs. Walton, Lieut. and Mrs. Evans, Miss Evans, Mrs. McClure, Mr. and Mrs. Waters Davis, Miss Evelyn Logan, Miss Shelton, Miss Kate Marr, Miss Kate Crosby, Miss Newman, Miss Beall, Miss Trumbull, Miss McMillan, Miss Haggart, Messrs. Newman, Marr, Moore, Logan, Spellecy, Raynolds, Tucker, Scul and Cooley.

Miss Aggie McClure, sister of the wife of Q. M. Sergt. Douglas, was married at the post this week to Mr. Richy, of El Paso. Many friends from El Paso were present at the ceremony, which was performed by Father Calle, of El Paso.

Col. Van Valzah, accompanied by his staff, called on Governor Atkinson, of Georgia, last week, in El Paso. The latter, with quite a large party, was en route to the city of Mexico.

RECENT DEATHS.

Mr. George W. Penney, who died Jan. 3, at Newark, Ohio, of pneumonia, was one of the oldest and best known citizens of that city. He was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., Oct. 13, 1812, went to Newark in 1840, and has resided there ever since. His wife died several years ago. He leaves six children, one of whom is Capt. Charles G. Penney, 6th U. S. Inf., stationed at Fort Thomas, Ky. The funeral took place Jan. 5 from the family residence.

Maj. William Scott Tremain, U. S. A., retired, who died Jan. 10, at his residence in Buffalo, N. Y., went to the front in 1863, as Assistant Surgeon of the 24th Massachusetts Inf. in 1864; was appointed Surgeon of the 31st U. S. Colored Inf., then Assistant Surgeon of U. S. Volunteers and mustered out June 4, 1866. He had Feb. 28 previously been appointed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army, attained the grade of Major and Surgeon June 30, 1882, and was retired for disability in line of duty Feb. 27, 1891.

That distinguished veteran of two wars, Bvt. Maj. Gen. Christopher Colon Augur, Brig. Gen., U. S. A., retired, died at his home in Washington, D. C., on the afternoon of Jan. 16. The deceased officer was born July 10, 1821, at Kendall, Orleans County, New York; entered West Point in 1839; was graduated in 1843, and promoted to the 2d Infantry. He was made 2d Lieutenant of the 4th Infantry in 1845 and served with great efficiency and credit during the Mexican war, being part of the time A. D. C. to Gen. Hopping and part to Gen. Cushing. He was promoted Captain, 4th Infantry, in 1852, and from that time forward until the War of the Rebellion, had his full share of frontier service, taking part in many engagements against hostile Indians. He was promoted Major, 13th Infantry, May 14, 1861, and soon afterwards was appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers and was made Major General of Volunteers in 1862. First as a Division Commander and then as a Corps Commander, he proved himself to be not only a gallant soldier but an able commander of troops. He was severely wounded at Cedar Mountain, Aug. 9, 1862, but took the field again in November. He was mustered out of the Volunteer service Sept. 1, 1866, being then Colonel of the 12th U. S. Infantry, and in 1869 was promoted Brigadier General. He commanded several of the military geographical departments until retired for age, July 10, 1885, and was noted for his sagacity, energy and ability under many trying circumstances. He held brevets from Colonel to Major General for gallantry in the field. Gen. Augur leaves a widow, five sons and two daughters. Two of the sons are now in the Army, Capt. Colon Augur, 2d Cav., and Maj. Jacob Arnold Augur, 4th Cav. One of the daughters is the wife of Lieut. Col. G. B. Russell, 14th Inf., a former Aide-de-Camp of the deceased General. The funeral took place Jan. 19, from St. John's Church, interment being in the National Cemetery at Arlington. The cavalry from Fort Myer and artillery from Washington Barracks formed the escort. This is but a brief record of the military career of one who was a typical officer and gentleman, esteemed and loved by all who knew him.

The venerable Mrs. Bache, widow of Med. Dir. B. F. Capt. and Mrs. Andruss gave a most delightful card party in the assembly rooms on Friday evening last. The hall was beautifully decorated with flags and rugs, and about forty guests enjoyed playing "high five." The prizes were handsome and elegant, and at 12 o'clock a most delicious supper was served. A very jolly little hop was given last week in the assembly room. Among those present were: Maj. and Mrs. Ramsay, Mrs. Rodgers, Maj. and Mrs. Maus, the Misses Maus, Capt. and Mrs. Andruss, Capt. and Mrs. Thorpe, Capt. and Mrs. Carson, Capt. and Mrs. Hills, Capt. Poindexter, Lieut. and Mrs. Hancock, Lieut. and Mrs. Straub, Lieuts. Whistler, Irwine, Carbaugh, Callan, Summerall, McNeil and Hills, and quite a number of guests from Bay Ridge. Maj. and Mrs. Ramsay, and Lieut. and Mrs. Straub, each entertained with a hop supper afterwards.

The ladies of the garrison held a meeting at Mrs. Maus's in regard to giving a series of hops. They decided to have them every two weeks on Thursday evenings.

Mrs. Rodgers, wife of Dr. Rodgers, of the Navy, has been the guest of her uncle, Maj. Ramsay.

Wednesday Lieut. and Mrs. Straub gave a very pretty dinner and had for their guests Capt. and Mrs. Thorpe, Capt. and Mrs. Carson, Lieut. and Mrs. Hancock, and Lieut. and Mrs. Irwin.

Bache, U. S. N., died Jan. 11, at 232 Henry street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. Mary Phister Blaine, widow of Post Chaplain Malnor C. Blaine, U. S. A., died Dec. 30, 1897, at the College Hill Sanitarium, Cincinnati. Mrs. Blaine's mind had given way within the past year under the weight of family bereavement. It will be recalled that in November, 1896, Chaplain Blaine, wife and only daughter were at Fort Ringgold, Texas. On the night of Thanksgiving Day, after Mrs. Blaine and her daughter had retired to their sleeping rooms upstairs, while Maj. Blaine was downstairs, he was aroused by smoke, and discovered the upper part of the house in flames. Dashing upstairs, he went first to his wife's room, and, wrapping her in a blanket, he reached ground safely. Then, in spite of warnings, he rushed upstairs after his daughter. The stairs were ablaze, but he finally reached his child. He wrapped her carefully in a blanket and was seen by his brother officers to make his way to the head of the stairs, folding the girl close to his breast. Then there was a crash, sparks flew in all directions, and father and daughter were plunged down to the cellar. There they were found after the fire had died down, the dead father still clasping his dead child in his arms. He was terribly burned, but when the blanket was taken from the girl not a mark of smoke or fire was found upon her. Her father had literally fought the flames from her.

Mrs. Mary A. Simpson, wife of Chaplain G. W. Simpson, U. S. A., retired, died at York, Pa., Jan. 1. She had been an invalid for some time. She was the mother of seven children, Mrs. F. F. Brunton, the late Mrs. Ruth L. Bernard, wife of Gen. R. F. Bernard, U. S. A., retired, Deputy Governor of the Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. F. L. Palmer, wife of Lieut. F. L. Palmer, 21st U. S. Inf.; Harry Simpson, William Simpson, and Miss Lillie G. and Harriet G., who are at home.

The many friends of Capt. Swigert, 2d Cav., will regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Swigert, at Lexington, Ky., Jan. 3. Mrs. Swigert resided at Fort Leavenworth for several years, and her home was the scene of many pleasant social entertainments.—K. C. Times.

Mrs. E. S. Woolworth, who died recently at Omaha, was the wife of Judge J. M. Woolworth, and, we believe, the mother of Mrs. Howard, wife of Capt. Guy C. Howard, Aast. Q. M., U. S. A. The "Church and Home" says: "Mrs. Woolworth's death removes from church circles in Omaha a most devoted and faithful worker and generous giver. The Woman's Auxiliary and all charitable enterprises will miss her generous assistance and wise counsel, and many a poor family in Omaha will receive and bless her name."

Capt. Charles Eben Nordstrom, 10th U. S. Cav., who died Jan. 11, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, was at the time of his death on duty as Acting Agent for the Pueblo and Jicarilla Indians. He had suffered for a long time from rheumatism. He served during the War—from 1862 to 1865—as Private of Co. E, 1st Maine Cavalry, and in June, 1867, was appointed 2d Lieutenant of the 10th U. S. Cavalry, attaining his Captaincy, Aug. 20, 1889.

The death of Mrs. Fredk. W. Downer, daughter of Med. Dir. Delavan Bloodgood, U. S. N., which we announced last week, was the culmination of a long and wasting illness due to cancer of the stomach. The Brooklyn "Eagle," edited by St. Clair McKelway, who had known Mrs. Downer from her youth, says of her: "When Mrs. Downer was first stricken with this complaint, her temporary residence was in Las Vegas, in New Mexico. With her husband and her children she had gone there from West Superior City on account of the prostration of Mr. Downer by consumption. Many months of devoted attention to him in New Mexico, preceded by years of like sympathetic service in Wisconsin, had depreciated the naturally strong constitution of Mrs. Downer, and she was mortally stricken while caring for her husband in his lingering and fatal illness. Dr. Bloodgood, in the early part of last year, brought his daughter and her two children from New Mexico to his home in this city, Mr. Downing being left in Las Vegas, as he could not be moved, in the charge of his parents, physicians and nurses. There he died some months ago, and here his wife lingered in hopeless illness in her parents' home, until released from suffering and from pain. This double mortality marked as sad and tragic a situation as could well be conceived. During her long illness, Mrs. Downer's intellect was unclouded, her courage complete, her cheerfulness constant and her consideration for others dominating. A more beautiful and unselfish life than hers would be hard to imagine. A more calm and confident and uncomplaining passage out of life can nowhere have occurred. It is a source of comfort and, in a sense, of compensation to her kindred and to her friends that all that could be done for her was done and was thoroughly appreciated by her. With the family physician, Dr. J. Corbin, of McDonough street, who was her friend from her childhood, were brought into consultation the most skillful medical practitioners of Manhattan and of Brooklyn to share consideration of her case. It became simply one of progressive dissolution and the end has been reached. A young son, Delavan Bloodgood, and a young daughter, Louise de-Forrest, are the surviving children. In the domestic circle bereaved by this event are the household of the late Chief Judge W. C. R. R. of the Court of Appeals, and the household of Maj. Gen. Thomas H. R. R. of the U. S. Army, relatives of Mrs. Downer on the maternal side. Mrs. Downer in her girlhood was an active and universally esteemed member of Brooklyn society, and numbered many friends among the friends of her parents in the social circles of Washington, New York and other cities."

Mr. James T. Ringgold, who died suddenly in Baltimore, Jan. 17, was connected with the family to which the gallant Capt. Samuel Ringgold, 3d U. S. Art., who died of wounds received at the battle of Palo Alto, in 1846, belonged.

Many in the Army and in civil life will regret to learn of the death, Jan. 14, at San Francisco of Mrs. Shafter, wife of Brig. Gen. William R. Shafter, commanding the Department of California. She was an estimable lady and very popular.

Mrs. Ella Bassett Washington, widow of Col. Lewis William Washington, of Virginia, who died in New York Jan. 17, was a great-grandniece of both George Washington and Martha Washington. Her father was George Washington Bassett, who was descended on his mother's side from Martha Washington's sister, Anna Maria Dandridge, and her mother was Betty Lewis, daughter of Betty Washington, George Washington's sister. Her husband, Lewis William Washington, was the son of George Corbin Washington, who was a grand-nephew of President Washington, being the son of William Augustine, who was the son of John Augustine, who was brother to George. Lewis William Washington died at Harper's Ferry in 1871. The deceased lady was a member of the Society of Colonial Dames of Virginia, of the Mary Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution, of New York, and a trustee of the National Historical Museum. She was well known in literary circles, and an authority on the genealogy of the Washington family, and at the time of her death had nearly completed a book on this subject.

23d INFANTRY.—COLONEL SAMUEL OVENSHINE.

1st Lieut. Charles B. Hagadorn, 23d Inf., having been transferred from Co. F to Co. H of his regiment, is relieved from further duty at Fort Clark, and will proceed to join his new station, Fort Brown, Tex. (S. O. 7, D. T., Jan. 12.)

Leave for one month is granted 1st Lieut. Charles B. Hagadorn, 23d Inf. (S. O. 8, D. T., Jan. 14.)

24th INFANTRY.—COLONEL JACOB F. KENT.

Leave for seven days is granted to 1st Lieut. J. H. Bachelor, Jr., 24th Inf. (Fort Slocum, Jan. 19.)

We are indebted to Adj't. George S. Cartwright, 24th U. S. Inf., for a neat roster of commissioned officers of the regiment issued on Jan. 1. The Colonels of the regiment, since 1869, have been Ranald S. Mackenzie, Abner Doubleday, Joseph H. Potter, Z. R. Bliss and the present Colonel, J. Ford Kent, since April 25, 1895.

25th INFANTRY.—COLONEL ANDREW S. BURT.

1st Lieut. Frank H. Albright, 25th Inf., is detailed as professor of military science and tactics at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, N. D. (H. Q. A., Jan. 15.)

COURTS MARTIAL.

Garrison C. M., Fort Washington, Detail: Asst. Surg. J. M. Kennedy and Lieuts. A. S. Fleming, L. S. Miller, and C. C. Hearn. (Fort Washington, Jan. 14.)

Garrison C. M., Madison Barracks, Detail: Capt. W. L. Carpenter and Paul Shillock, and Lieuts. C. R. Noyes and W. S. Barlow. (Madison Barracks, Jan. 17.)

At Fort Wadsworth, N. Y., Jan. 21, Detail: Maj. John D. Hall, Surg.; Capts. Charles Morris, Anthony W. Vogdes, John McClellan, 2d Lieuts. George G. Gatley, Conway H. Arnold, Jr., 5th Art.; and 1st Lieut. Albert C. Blunt, 5th Art., J. A. (S. O. 12, D. E., Jan. 17.)

At Fort Thomas, Ky., Jan. 24, Detail: Capt. William H. H. Crowell, Capt. Alexander M. Wetherill, Capt. Bernard A. Byrne, Capt. Zerah W. Torrey, Capt. Reuben B. Turner, 1st Lieut. Benjamin A. Poore, 1st Lieut. Harry R. Lee, 1st Lieut. Matt R. Peterson, 1st Lieut. Jules G. Ord, 2d Lieut. Reuben S. Turman, 2d Lieut. Houston V. Evans, 6th Inf., and 1st Lieut. Elmore F. Taggart, 6th Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 14, D. E., Jan. 19.)

A. G. C. M. will convene at Fort Assiniboine, Monday, Jan. 17, 1898, for the trial of Pvt. Virgil Hammond, Troop K, 10th U. S. Cav., he having objected to trial by summary court. Detail for the court: Capt. G. H. Evans, 10th U. S. Cav.; 1st Lieut. W. E. Shipp, 10th U. S. Cav.; 2d Lieut. S. D. Rockenbach, 10th U. S. Cav.; 2d Lieut. A. E. Kennington, 10th U. S. Cav., Judge Adv.

RETIRED OFFICERS.

1st Lieut. Melzar C. Richards, U. S. A., is detailed for service as Professor at the Peekskill Military Academy, Peekskill, N. Y., vice 1st Lieut. Louis H. Orleman, U. S. A., relieved at his own request. (H. Q. A., Jan. 17.)

RETIREMENT OF ENLISTED MEN.

The following-named enlisted men, now at the stations designated after their respective names, are, upon their own application, placed upon the retired list: Sergt. William Hickey, Detachment of Ordnance, Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.; Commy. Sergt. Casper Hurst, Fort Slocum, N. Y.; Corp. Maxwell A. Williams, Co. B, 25th Inf., Fort Missoula, Mont. (H. Q. A., Jan. 18.)

ARMY CONFIRMATIONS.

Executive nominations have been confirmed by the Senate as follows:

JAN. 14.—2d Lieut. John William Furlong, 1st Cav., to be 1st Lieutenant.

1st Lieut. Jonas Aden Emery, 11th Inf., to be Captain.

2d Lieut. Melville Shinn Jarvis, 4th Inf., to be 1st Lieutenant.

2d Lieut. John William Heavey, 5th Inf., to be 1st Lieutenant.

FORT CROOK, NEB.

Fort Crook, Neb., Jan. 16, 1898.

Saturday, Jan. 8, Mrs. Kreps entertained all the ladies of the post with cards. Progressive euchre was the game. Mrs. Lockwood won the lone hand, a beautiful Haviland cup and saucer; Mrs. Van Horn the progressive prize, a cream pitcher and sugar bowl; Miss Jenks, the consolation, a traveling salve box. As is usual when Mrs. Kreps entertains, all passed a delightful afternoon. Delicious refreshments were served at half past four.

Monday, Capt. and Mrs. Crittenton entertained the garrison at cards in honor of their guest, Miss Jenks. Hearts was the game played. The prizes were taken by Mrs. Forbes, Mrs. Lockwood and Lieut. Davison.

Lieut. Hughes, 10th Cav., is visiting Lieut. and Mrs. Moore.

Col. Wickoff has been requested to recommend a Captain for the Shoshone Agency.

Saturday, Jan. 15, Lieut. and Mrs. Moore gave a very pretty dinner complimentary to Lieut. Hughes. A very elaborate menu was served. The guests were Lieut. Hughes, Patten and Newell. Mrs. Moore looked very handsome in evening dress.

As will be seen in our columns of orders some of the batteries of the 3d Artillery in San Francisco Harbor, have been treated to slight changes of station, without, however, removing them from their proximity to the Golden Gate.

The engagement is announced of Miss Mary E. Atwill, daughter of Rt. Rev. Edward A. Atwill, Bishop of West Missouri, and niece of Capt. W. H. Whiting, U. S. N. to Mr. Edgar A. Macklin, son of Capt. James E. Macklin, 11th U. S. Inf.

Maj. W. S. Stanton, C. E., U. S. A., is slated to succeed Maj. W. R. Livermore, U. S. A., as Engineer of the First and Second Lighthouse Districts, upon the completion of the trial of Capt. O. M. Carter.

ADDITIONAL ARMY ORDERS.

2d Lieut. A. S. Fleming, 4th Art., will proceed to Fort Washington, Md., and report for temporary court martial duty. (Washington Barracks, Jan. 13.)

A. G. C. M. is appointed to meet at Columbus Barracks, O., Jan. 25, Detail: Capt. Cyrus S. Roberts, Capt. Thomas Sharp, Capt. William P. Rogers, Capt. Charles St. J. Chubb, 1st Lieut. Walter M. Dickinson, 1st Lieut. Charles D. Clay, 2d Lieut. Benjamin F. Hardaway, 2d Lieut. William D. Davis, 2d Lieut. David P. Cordray, 2d Lieut. Thomas L. Smith, 2d Lieut. Verling K. Hart, 17th Inf., and 1st Lieut. James T. Kerr, 17th Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 15, D. E., Jan. 20.)

The Commanding Officer, Light Battery E, 1st Artillery, will send a caisson properly draped to the residence of the late Gen. C. C. Augur, to proceed thence to St. John's Church and Arlington Cemetery. (Washington Barracks, Jan. 19.)

THE CARTER COURT MARTIAL.

The trial of Capt. O. M. Carter, U. S. A., is proceeding at Savannah in the U. S. court room, which is filled daily with interested spectators. The members of the court sit at two tables placed at a slight angle just in front of the judge's desk. Members of the bar are allowed to go inside and occupy the jury seats, as is customary at court sessions, and there were also several ladies present during a portion of the proceedings. The court and the accused have separate stenographers. Capt. Carter is represented by Messrs. W. G. Charlton, W. W. Marshall, Frank P. Blair and A. J. Rose, as counsel. Col. Barr was assisted by Capt. McClure.

"You have heard the orders convening the court," Col. Barr said to Capt. Carter. "Have you any objection to any member of the court?"

"None, whatever," Capt. Carter replied.

The proceedings of the first day we reported last week. In presenting the plea in bar Mr. Logan said: "This plea simply eliminates the matters relating to the first five contracts, while those relating to the contracts of 1896 remain. The charges as to the methods pursued, the materials used and the general plan of the project are the same under the two contracts of 1896 as under the five preceding contracts. They involve a similar state of facts, and the court is not barred from making a full investigation of the harbor work."

Col. Barr, in reply, said the accused stood well within his rights in making the plea, and that he could not ask the court to refuse to sustain it. Instead of clearing the court room to deliberate on the question, the court retired for a moment, and returning admitted the plea.

The second day was occupied with the general identification of checks and contracts by Asst. U. S. Treasurer Saml. N. Jordan, who brought the checks with him from New York, and by John B. McCarthy, clerk in the Record Division of the office of the Chief of Engineers, Washington. Col. Barr asked the indulgence of the court in the matter of presenting the case, owing to the limited time he had had for preparation. He said: "I shall conduct the case with all possible speed, and trust the court will, for the reasons stated, be indulgent."

Mr. Charlton stated that he thoroughly appreciated the position of Col. Barr, and said that Capt. Carter's counsel would co-operate with him in anything that he desired.

Friday, Jan. 14, and Saturday, Jan. 15, were occupied in the examination and cross examination of Capt. Cassius E. Gillette, C. E., U. S. A., and in the presentation of specifications, contracts and other documents to be used in evidence. The specifications called for three classes of mattresses and stone differing in price, but no particulars were given as to the amount of each kind required. This, it is alleged, gave an advantage to a favored bidder, able to obtain information not contained in the specifications.

Objection was made to receiving the testimony of Capt. Gillette as to the cost of the mattresses in question, but this objection was not sustained by the court.

Capt. Gillette explained by a map the character of the work, and described the method of conducting it. He described mattresses that he had inspected after he relieved Capt. Carter, and which did not conform to the specifications. He explained that the choking of brush is necessary to make the fascines. There was no indication of anything of that kind having been done on this mattress, he said.

"I could not walk across the mattress except by walking on one of the poles, because the brush was so loose as to cause one to sink in. This mattress consisted of something over 3,000 square yards as measured by the inspector, and the price being \$1.10 per square yard under the contract, its cost to the government was something like \$3,600."

"Did that mattress meet the requirements of the agreement with the Atlantic Contracting Company?" Col. Barr asked.

"It did not," was Capt. Gillette's reply.

"Was the mattress of as much intrinsic value or as great cost in construction as those of the third class named in the specifications?" was the next question.

At this point objection was made by Mr. Blair, and a long argument arose as to the admissibility of the testimony, on the ground that the cost of the mattress to the contractor had nothing to do with the case. The law of conspiracy was also discussed. In his remarks Col. Barr said:

"I am not seeking the conviction of the accused as a matter of professional pride, for this court knows I have no professional pride of that character. I do not want to do any injustice to the accused, but I cannot conscientiously leave out any point which would do an injustice to the Government."

Finally the question was taken down in writing, and given to the court, which retired.

Gen. Otis announced, when the court returned, after half an hour's deliberation, that it had decided not to sustain the objection.

The question as to whether the mattress in question was as valuable as a mattress built according to the third or lowest design in the specifications, was then read to Capt. Gillette again.

"It was not as valuable or as costly as mattresses of the third design, and, according to my experience in this work, its cost was about one-tenth of the amount charged per square yard," he said. "I think its cost was not over 10 or 15 cents per square yard. This mattress was sunk in the work."

Similar testimony was given as to other mattresses inspected by Capt. Gillette.

"Did you examine the rock used in this work when you came here?" Col. Barr asked.

"I examined the rock at Cumberland Sound," Capt. Gillette said. "I saw several large loads of it, and the majority of it was a loose, light limestone. I made no test of it personally, but I did make objections to the use of that rock in the Savannah Harbor works, as rock that was not in accordance with the specifications."

Some bundles of brush were brought into court and identified by Capt. Gillette as specimens brought to his office by an inspector and clerk by his orders. He was asked if they could properly be termed fascines under the language used in the specifications. He replied:

"Most emphatically not; they would not."

"Was the mattress about which you have testified constructed of bundles of that character?" Col. Barr asked.

"Apparently of bundles similar in character to the lower one; it was finer brush; I saw no poles or sticks, anything like as large as those in the upper bundle; it was of very fine material. Otherwise the system of construction was apparently about the same as those."

The cord used in tying the bundles of brush was described as lath yarn, such as is used in tying bundles of laths. Its strength could be inferred from this fact.

Capt. Gillette went over all the features of the contract relative to stone, but he could not testify as to the quality and character of the stone used, because he had not personally tested it. He said that the orders with regard to the construction of the mattresses by the con-

tractors had not been changed by him prior to the time that he inspected the mattress at Cumberland Sound.

On cross examination Capt. Gillette testified to his record of service. It included a year and a half in charge of the construction of mattresses in Humboldt Harbor, Cal., and of brush dams in Sacramento River. He described the character of the mattresses he dealt with then.

Mr. Blair asked: "As a matter of fact then, when you reached here on July 20, you had never had any practical experience with mattresses such as are used in this contract?"

"If you mean precisely, no; but from an engineering standpoint, yes," was Capt. Gillette's reply. "The mattresses used there were for essentially the same purpose."

In answer to other questions Capt. Gillette stated that he did not intend to pay the Atlantic Construction Company for imperfect mattresses furnished since he took charge. He further said: "I find that the twine in question is stronger than I indicated by my answer yesterday. Since my testimony yesterday I have tested it and find it was much stronger than I thought it was. It is quite strong material."

Capt. Gillette was closely questioned as to his knowledge of fascines by Mr. Blair. He remarked that the sentence in the specifications in which it was stated that fascines should be well trimmed was not constructed grammatically.

"Never mind the grammar," Mr. Blair said. "Do you understand by well-trimmed that the leaves and twigs must all be lopped off?"

"I can't conceive of any other meaning," was the reply.

Capt. Gillette said he understood the specifications to mean such fascines as are used in military construction, this being a point of difference as to the interpretation of the contract. No one, he said, could predict what such mattresses would do on a sandy bottom, but the mattresses constructed had the great advantage of being enormously cheaper.

The facts were brought out that Capt. Gillette had taken to Savannah letters of introduction from Capt. Carter, that he had occupied Capt. Carter's house there by his invitation.

"Did Capt. Carter say if you wanted any explanation with regard to the work he would be glad to give it to you?" was asked.

"I don't remember that," was the reply.

"You never did ask any explanation of him, did you?"

"No; I didn't think I needed it."

Capt. Gillette said he had never had any correspondence with Capt. Carter as to the methods pursued under the contract, but did hear from him with regard to paying for it.

The witness was closely pressed for his opinion as to whether the work supervised by Capt. Carter was not a success, this branch of the examination culminating in this question and answer:

"If the project was to deepen the river, and that result has been reached, and the estimated annual expenditure has not been exceeded or reached, would you not say the work is a success?" Mr. Blair asked.

"Up to the present time it is successful, unquestionably," was the reply.

In a re-direct examination, Col. Barr brought out the facts of Capt. Gillette's intercourse with Capt. Carter. He said he had talked with Capt. Carter in Washington about the Cumberland Sound work. He was with him about an hour and a half. Capt. Carter told him what had been done on the breakwater, and stated that the military fascines were not used here, as they did not stand up like the others did.

Col. Barr reported that Mr. Marion Twigg, who is an important witness, was sick at Augusta, Ga. After some discussion between counsel as to whether his deposition could be legally taken by deposition, he being within the State, the counsel for Capt. Carter finally objected to this course, and it was decided that the Court should go to Augusta, first obtaining the permission of the Secretary of War.

On Monday the private papers of Capt. Carter were examined in his presence by Col. Barr, Maj. Henry M. Adams, a member of the Board of Inquiry which first examined into the charges, being present. Vigorous protests were made against this examination, on the ground that it was beyond the right of the Judge Advocate, and because of the presence of Maj. Adams on the ground that he was inimical to the accused. These protests were overruled.

The court adjourned on Monday, after a session of five minutes, and went to Augusta, where, in the sickroom of Mr. Twigg, his testimony was taken. Mr. Twigg was an Assistant Engineer in the Government work on the Cumberland Sound. He is dying of consumption and was unable to answer the summons to go to Savannah. The questions which he answered were largely technical and related to the identification of entries and vouchers. Mr. Twigg said under oath that the mattresses were not made according to specifications, but were made according to Capt. Carter's orders.

THE MERRIAM PACK.

Describing the proper outfit for a Yukon traveler the New York "Evening Post" says: "Every man should have a small kit of shoemakers' tools and supplies, also a complete mending outfit for clothing, toilet articles, etc., all in a case with pockets, one that can be rolled up and tied. A few yards of mosquito netting are necessary, for mosquitoes are a pest. Goggles to protect the eyes from snow blindness are necessary. Pens, ink, pencils, paper, and government-stamped envelopes, both Canadian and United States, should be taken. A few books are worth their weight. Fishing-tackle and shotguns are likely to prove of service, as the streams teem with fish, and water fowl are extremely abundant in summer. A compass is desirable, also snow shoes and snow carks for the feet. For travel on the snow, a Yukon sled is needed. No matter by what route one travels, or how he expects to transport his outfit, there will be times either on the journey, or in later when he will have to pack supplies on his own back, and he should be equipped for it. The ordinary packing straps cut and gall the shoulders, and let the load lie like a dead weight on the small of the back and the kidneys. There are various devices for overcoming these troubles. The best of them are the Merriman pack, by which the weight is thrown upon the hips, and the Yukon packing frame, which places the weight on the shoulders. Either is worth far more than it costs to the man who has to pack his outfit."

Grave apprehension is expressed at the Navy Department as to whether Dry Dock No. 3, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard will be safe to use in docking Navy ships in case Naval Constructor Bowles is successful in finally repairing the structure. It is feared that the soil on which the dock is built, loosened by the many piles driven into it, will give way when a heavy ship is taken into the dock. It is proposed to go slow, however, in using the dock when the repairs are completed.

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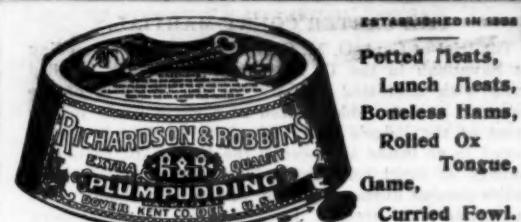
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WILL ANY OF THE OFFICERS OR CREW who served on board the U. S. S. Sovereign (Naval store ship) on the Mississippi river, between August 1862, and September 1863, kindly communicate with a shipmate. Address, Ord. Sgt. WM. H. BROWN, Willets Point, L. I.

DECISIONS OF THE CONTROLLER.

Controller of the Treasury Tracewell has rendered a decision of much interest to Army officers, which reverses a recent ruling of the Auditor for the War Department disallowing an account of Maj. W. S. Stanton, C. E., for parlor car fare. The Auditor reported to the Controller as follows: "I have decided that payment made by Maj. W. S. Stanton, Light House Engineer, of the 10th district, for 'parlor car fare,' and which is included in a voucher for 'mileage and transportation,' in his account for the first quarter, 1898, amounting to the sum of \$1.50, was an improper expenditure by such disbursing officer, and that the same should be disallowed in his accounts. Your attention is respectfully invited to the Army act approved March 16, 1896, for 'Mileage to Officers Traveling Without Troops, 1897,' which states 'that hereafter the maximum sum to be allowed and paid to any officer of the Army shall be four cents per mile, * * * and, in addition thereto, the cost of the transportation actually paid by the officer exclusive of parlor car or sleeping car fare.' The Controller has, however, decided that as the restriction clause 'exclusive of parlor car and sleeping car fare' was not attached to the appropriation for 1898, officers of the Army traveling without troops are entitled to have their accounts paid. He holds that the omission of the restrictive clause in the appropriation bill for 1898 is clear and the intent of Congress must be construed in the words of the act. The Controller says: 'I can see no reason for the presumption that Congress intended that the restriction contained in the provisos to the appropriations for mileage to officers of the Army for 1897 and for prior fiscal years should continue in force beyond those years and be applied to the appropriation for the transportation of officers of the Army for 1898. The fact that such a re-



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striction was embodied in provisos to other appropriations in prior years does not appear to me to raise such a presumption. On the contrary, I think the absence of the restriction from the later appropriation manifests beyond doubt the intention of Congress to dispense with it."

Assistant Secretary of War Meiklejohn, in disposing of the claim of Capt. Charles Morton, 3d Cav., for reimbursement for a trained nurse, \$50, and \$2 for whisky and Hunyadi water, which were disallowed by the Surgeon General, says: "Whisky having always been classed with hospital stores and Hunyadi being classed as a mineral water, the charge for these items was properly disallowed by the Surgeon General under Army Regulation 1456. There is no authority for the allowance of the amount paid for the services of a trained nurse and this item was properly disallowed by the Surgeon General. The very fact that the Army Regulations do not provide for the allowance of services of this character, raises a presumption that it was not the intention, when Army Regulations were published and promulgated by the direction of the Secretary of War to pay for such services. That there is some force in the statements of the Surgeon General of the Army and of Capt. Morton that it would be in the interest of the service to pay such accounts when the services are absolutely essential for the proper care of sick and wounded officers, cannot be denied, but this is a subject matter for a new regulation and cannot enter into the construction of the existing Army Regulations."

The Assistant Controller of the Treasury has decided that when a telegraph company which has accepted the provision of the act of July 24, 1866, relating to the construction of telegraph lines over the public domain, controls and operates the lines of another company for its own benefit under an agreement to pay such company a percentage of its stock, it amounts to a lease of the lines so operated, and in the transmission of Government messages such lines are to be treated as a part of the general system operating them.

The Auditor of the Navy Department recently submitted that vouchers in the accounts of the Paymaster of the Navy Yard at Pensacola showed that telegrams transmitted between Key West and Pensacola or Washington, D. C., the Western Union Telegraph Company charged double the rates fixed by the Postmaster General, in accordance with the act of July 24, 1866. The telegraph company's manager at Washington accounted for this double charge in the fact that the messages passed over the International Ocean Telegraph Company's lines, as well as those of the Western Union, which operates the former under a lease. The Assistant Controller has decided that on account of the lease only one toll can be charged, and the action of the Auditor in disallowing the payment of the double charge is sustained.

IVORY
SOAP

The traveler who would thoroughly enjoy his toilet and bath must carry a half cake in his toilet case.

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George Bronson Rea, field correspondent of the New York "Herald," holds the Cuban insurgents in very small esteem and presents some interesting facts in support of his opinions in a volume published by George Munro's Sons and entitled "Facts and Fables About Cuba." In the opinion of Mr. Rea, the American public are misled by lying stories concerning Cuban valor and Spanish cruelty. Insignificant skirmishes are magnified into great battles, and stories of Spanish excesses, told by unscrupulous Cubans, are spread in the columns of our daily papers under "Scare headings." In Florida are great factories for "war news," presided over by Cubans who rival Baron Munchausen in the fertility and absurdity of their inventions, and in Havana interested parties fill the notebook of the war correspondent with the stock stories of atrocities, of battles, rapes and other horrors attributed to the Spanish troops. On his return to the United States the correspondent drifts to Washington and offers his choice collection of "fakes" as evidence before the committees of Congress. The Spaniards will rarely volunteer any information. Even Mr. Richard Harding Davis has given currency to these lies. According to Mr. Rea there is a systematic and deliberate purpose to work upon American sympathies by blood-curdling reports of atrocities that have no existence, except in a fertile and lying imagination. "I lived in Cuba," says Mr. Rea, "for five years previous to the insurrection, and spent the best part of my time in the country, and I must say that if the Cubans were oppressed, I failed to discover in what manner."

Henry Ward Beecher once praised the morning glory vine as "a liberal bloomer," and the same may be said of the brain of Capt. Charles King, U. S. A. It blossoms with a new romance as often as any perennial on the floral list does with flowers. One of the Captain's very latest tales (published by F. Tennyson Neely) is "Warrior Gap: A Story of the Sioux Outbreak of '68." The volume is adorned by a good likeness of the Captain's bright, alert countenance, and the story is written with his accustomed dash and display of easy familiarity with Army ways, as well as knowledge of the hearts of men and maidens. Another story by Captain King comes to us from the J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. This is "The General's Double: A Story of the Army of the Potomac." There is in this story, too, the same delightful compound of valor and love, which we are accustomed to look for in Capt. King's books, a compound to which his skill each time imparts a new flavor. In it the scenes and characters of the war period are skillfully used for the purposes of fiction. Four spirited illustrations are contributed to the volume by J. Steeple Davis.

"I have had informal talk with Senator Hawley," said Representative Hull, "and we have agreed to push the bill to increase the artillery, in case there should be no chance for reorganization. Present indications are that reorganization has poor prospects at this session unless the Army is willing to be reduced. I am sure it is not. I am even doubtful as to the prospects for the increase of the artillery arm."

The following are the most recent additions to the popular library of novels published by F. Tennyson Neely: The Palmetto, by F. S. Heffernan; Author of John Nil, by Fred A. Randle; My Illegal Wife, Count Len Zoloff; Squire John, by St. George Rathbone; The Devil Worshippers, by Robert Montfort Luckey.

Enlistments for the line of the Army for the month of December, 1897, aggregated 891, divided as follows: General recruiting service 874, special recruiting service 17, total 891. Enlistments in cities 364, enlistments at military posts 527, total 891. There were 3,133 men rejected.

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J'AIME LE MILITAIRE.

Nowhere in the United States do more cordial relations exist between the State troops and those of the National Government than in the State of Vermont. This is a noble State, and though its population is less than that of most other States, they average very high in intelligence, in patriotism and in sturdy independence of character. We have no class of men in the United States more capable of making good soldiers than the hardy mountaineers of the Green Mountain State. We publish under our heading of State troops the report recently made by Capt. Tuthery on the Vermont encampment, including his suggestion as to co-operation between the Vermonters and our soldiers at Fort Ethan Allen. In a G. O. from that post dated Jan. 11, we have an account of the exchange of courtesies growing out of the services rendered by the 3d Cavalry Squadron at a fire in the town of Winooski, Vt., Jan. 1. In a letter to Capt. Geo. A. Dodd, commanding the 3d Cavalry, Gen. T. S. Peck, Adj't. Gen., of Vermont, says: "I am directed by His Excellency, Governor Grout, to thank you, and through you, the officers and men of your command, for the heroic service performed by you all at the fire at Winooski, on the evening Jan. 1, 1898. The Governor wishes you all to know how much the people of Vermont appreciate the kindly feeling which prompts such noble action on the part of the United States troops when necessity requires. * * * It gives me great pleasure to inform you of the above, and to say that for courage, promptness and heroic service, the action of the officers and men of the 3d U. S. Cavalry, during the fire at Winooski, has not been excelled in these parts. Their labors saved several buildings and much money, and we are glad to inform as well as congratulate you upon the efficiency of the troops, who, under Capt. Dodd's command, did so well."

The post order also publishes the resolutions passed by the trustees of the village of Winooski, thanking the troops and saying: "The Board of Village Trustees desire to express their gratification that relations of so cordial a nature should exist between the garrison at Fort Ethan Allen, and the people of the village of Winooski, prompting the former to instantly offer assistance on perceiving our danger, and to quickly respond on learning our urgent needs. We feel that efficient work done was achieved not only by the remarkable discipline manifested in the handling of this large force by the officers in charge, but also by the individual interest manifested by the men."

A letter is also given from Mason & Co., stating that they owe all they saved to the efforts of the soldiers.

The order concludes as follows: "The expression of sentiment as set forth in the foregoing requires no comments other than those of a congratulatory nature. The Post Commander, however, desires to express his appreciation of and thanks for the commendable promptness with which the squadron responded, at a most unexpected time, to an alarm requiring immediate action. It is a matter of satisfaction that the discipline and cohesion

of the different organizations, together with the intelligent and energetic co-operation of officers and enlisted men, made the accomplishment of some good possible—gratitude for which has been so forcibly expressed by those most interested.

"By order of Capt. Dodd: T. R. Rivers, 1st Lieut. and Adj't., 3d Cav., Adj't."

We give especial prominence to this incident for the reason that it illustrates a fact that we have always insisted upon, viz., that the officers and men of our Army are appreciated just in proportion as they are known. Superstition is hard to deal with, and the superstition—for it is nothing else—that discredits the soldier will only disappear when all the people of the United States learn, as the people of Winooski have learned, what manner of men they actually are.

Winooski is a town of about 3,000 inhabitants, beautifully situated among the Green Mountain hills in the vicinity of Burlington. Near it is a monument to Ethan Allen.

NAVAL POWER AND COMMERCIAL GROWTH.

The plea of economy will be a powerful argument in the present Congress against any legislation for either Army or Navy that involves increased expense. This, and the differences of opinion in the service itself make the fate of the Roosevelt scheme for reorganizing the Navy very doubtful. To keep such vessels as the New York, Olympia and Indiana in commission costs, on an average, over one thousand dollars a day for each vessel. This seems a great extravagance to Congressmen whose ideas are limited by the narrow experiences of some rural locality, and who have little conception of the vast interests involved in the maintenance of our national prestige and the importance of naval power as an auxiliary thereto. Even in imperial Germany the same difficulty arises, and it requires constant effort to secure from the Reichstag the money required to place the German Navy on a par with that of other first-class powers.

The intimate relation between naval development and commercial growth is shown in a report recently presented to the State Department by our Consul to Mainz, Mr. Walter Schumann. Millions of German capital are invested in warehouses and agencies in every country of the world, and it is in order to protect all these vast interests, as well as the German merchant marine, which represents a floating capital of many million dollars that the increase by the Navy is required.

The stock arguments as to the injurious results of great military establishments upon commercial and industrial development are curiously falsified by the experience of Germany. In the fourteen years from 1881 to 1895 her commerce increased by about \$246,418,000, while that of England decreased by about \$190,400,000. More than one-half of this increase was in the commerce with the United States, which was \$190,400,000 in 1893 as compared with \$83,300,000 in 1881. The foreign trade of Germany was in 1895, \$1,772,624,000. This colossal development is ascribed to the thorough system of education and individual training prevailing in Germany and which is the accompaniment of its military system. German merchants and manufacturers have as their representatives in all parts of the world men who have had an excellent commercial training at home and who are able to speak at least two or three languages. As Mr. Schumann tells us, Germany, owing to her steady and rapid increase in population (126 per 10,000 per annum), is destined to become an important factor in the commerce of the world. She has founded colonies to find not only an additional market for her wares, but also an outlet for her superfluous population. It is also for their protection that an increased naval strength is advocated.

The question much debated in the Military Order of the Loyal Legion as to whether a Midshipman at the Academy during the Civil War was or was not a commissioned officer, would appear to have been finally settled at the last meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief held in Philadelphia in October last. The proceedings just published, show that George E. Alkins, late Midshipman, U. S. N., was admitted to the Ohio Commandery on the ground that his service while Midshipman on the frigate Macedonian from June 6, 1863 to Sept. 20, 1863, was service as a commissioned officer in the suppression of the rebellion. Two questions were involved; first, whether a Midshipman was a commissioned officer and, second, whether his practice cruise was war service. The Ohio Commandery decided both questions in favor of Mr. Alkins. As to his rank, the committee, consisting of Jacob D. Cox, Cornelius Cadle, and E. Zimmerman, held that by the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the case of U. S. vs. Baker (125 U. S. Reports, p. 646, April, 1888) it was determined that a Midshipman was "an officer of the Navy." This decision was reaffirmed in U. S. vs. Cook (128 U. S. Reports, p. 254, Nov. 19, 1888). Being an officer of the Navy, it was held that a Midshipman was a commissioned officer, with the meaning of the Constitution of the Military Order. But when the matter came up for review in the Commandery-in-Chief, it was held that though he was an officer he was not a commissioned officer. The committee to whom the question was referred were: Geo. W. Melville, U. S. N.; James M. Forsyth, U. S. N.; James Parker, late U. S. N.; Arnold A. Rand and Addison A. Hosmer.

On the unanimous recommendation of this committee, the Commandery-in-Chief adopted the following resolution: "Resolved, That never having been a commissioned officer in the Navy, Army or Volunteer forces of the United States, Mr. George E. Alkins was ineligible for election as member of this Order, and that his election by the Commandery of the State of Ohio be, and is hereby, declared null and void.

The "Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette" lays stress on the value to England of the Italian alliance which, if not definite and formal, is found in the mutual good will of the two nations. Our contemporary says: "In any grave European emergency it would probably be deemed the clear duty of this country to subsidize Italy, as was done in the case of Germany during the last century and the Napoleonic era. From both points of view, viz., of maritime security and of finance, Italy regards the alliance of this country as an indispensable necessity for her prosperity, security and progress. But the advantages are not all on one side, and far too little heed has been paid to the value the alliance and good will of Italy and her people constitute for us. We want allies just like every other people; we cannot pursue a solitary course. But it will be said, Where are those allies to be obtained? Certainly not in Turkey, which has been lost and discredited in the eyes of the British people through the long apathy and want of policy of our own governments. In Europe there is indeed only one alliance that is ours for the asking, and that is Italy's. All the countries of Europe are bent on the acquisition of navies. Italy possesses not merely one of the most useful of them, but it is stationed in a quarter where an ally is most needed and can be most available." Perhaps with Italy and Japan England may be able to form a triple alliance of her own. Thus doth the fear of war, like poverty, make strange bedfellows. If England will confine herself to the four continents of Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia, and leave the fifth to us, we shall have no cause of quarrel with her. Otherwise she may find occasion to seek for a fourth ally to balance a quadruple alliance.

The White Rose League, which has hundreds of branches in Great Britain, and an annual income of \$1,000,000, describe their august sovereign as the usurping ruler, Victoria, a Princess of Hanover. The rightful ruler they declare to be a Princess of Bavaria, descended from Charles I. and known among them as Mary IV. Don Carlos is declared to be the rightful heir to the crowns of France and Spain, and Abdul Hamid II., of Turkey, a usurper, the Turkish throne having been vacant, according to this authority, since 1453. The League, whose members are sworn to restore the Jacobite dynasty, would revive all peerages existing in the days of the Stuarts, and recognize an American artisan as the Earl of Clancarty, a Spanish noble as Duke of Berwick, and two obscure Irishmen as Earls of Limerick and Tyrconnell. This would deprive 28 English and 134 Irish peers of their titles.

There are members of both the Senate and House Committees who do not think that the prospects for Navy reorganization are very bright. Chairman Boutelle, of the House Committee, is carefully considering the Roosevelt bill. Mr. Boutelle is not altogether favorable to the proposition to select out officers and he is desirous of informing himself as to the manner in which officers of the new line shall be detailed to engineering duty. He has talked with a number of officers on the subject and proposes to find out what the sense of the service is before proceeding. Representative Hilborn, the senior Republican member of the House Naval Committee, says there is no chance for the passage of a reorganization measure. Senator Hale is inclined to look at the subject in the same way. All of the gentlemen with whom the "Journal" correspondent talked declared, however, that they would give the subject careful consideration before definitely making up their minds one way or the other regarding the merits of the Roosevelt bill.

Representative Hull, chairman of the House Naval Committee, said he was not so hopeful of the passage of the measure at the present session. "I have no doubt," he continued, "that it will get through during this Congress, but I do not think the chances are particularly bright during the present session."

News has reached the War Department of the successful casting at the Otis Steel Works, Cleveland, O., of Dr. Gatling's new solid cast gun, weighing eighteen tons. The steel was poured into the mold according to a process of which Dr. Gatling is the inventor, under the inspection of an Ordnance Officer of the War Department, Congress having appropriated money for defraying the expense incident to the construction of this experimental gun. The gun is now being rifled. Dr. Gatling claims that this new type of rifle will withstand the heaviest explosives. The breech mechanism will be prepared either at the Washington Navy Yard or at the arsenal at Watervliet, N. Y. As soon as these portions are completed they will be shipped to New York, where the gun will be put together and tested at Sandy Hook, Dr. Gatling being represented by a retired Naval officer. The inventor says that he can equip the Army and Navy with high power guns suitable for our battleships and for coast defense purposes at less than half the price that is now being paid, reducing the price of heavy guns from an average of 70 cents to 10 cents a pound.

Capt. Ericsson's old idea of a gun made by shrinking thin discs of steel on a central tube has been revived by Mr. Edwin F. Blood, of Chicago. The inventor thinks that by this construction crystallization by vibration will be checked and the gun quickly knocked down and rebuilt. Ericsson did not contemplate these items of superiority. He only proposed to make an effective steel gun by means suited to the machine shops of that day, but he had to trust to a cast iron central tube and his gun failed when tried at a high angle, as those who tested it intended that it should.

THE QUESTION OF DRY DOCKS.

The Navy Department may make an investigation to determine the responsibility of Civil Engr. U. S. G. White, U. S. N., in connection with the defects discovered in Dry Dock No. 3 at the New York Navy Yard. Civil Engr. Menocal, who is to be court-martialed on charges growing out of the defects in the dock, claims that he was at Key West when the sheet piling was put in place and that his assistants are responsible. It is understood that while Mr. Menocal was at the Navy Yard he apportioned the general work among other civil engineers at the yard who were subordinate to him, and retained the supervisory work in connection with the construction of the dock in his own hands. Civil Engr. Peary's connection with the work consisted in inspecting some pipes placed in position in the dock. So far as can be learned Mr. Menocal was absent from New York at the time the sheet piling was being driven for about three weeks prior to March 19. During this period it is said that the outer row of piles, which have developed the most serious defects may have been driven, though there is at present no direct proof of this. Mr. White was in charge at this time, but he denies that he is responsible, and in view of the possibility that he may have understood that the workmen were following a plan adopted by his superior, the Department will go slowly in Mr. White's case. It will be recalled that at the time of the caisson accident last summer Mr. Menocal had made all the arrangements regarding the caisson and went away leaving Mr. White in charge. The latter had been on duty only a few hours when the caisson overturned. The court of inquiry which investigated the matter found Mr. White partially responsible and he was reprimanded for his connection with the affair.

In the event of war between the United States and a foreign power, the operations of the American Navy would be seriously hampered by the lack of docking facilities. This is particularly true of the North Atlantic Squadron. There is to-day not a dock on the Atlantic coast in which battleships could be placed, and it is doubtful if any of the larger cruisers, if injured and carrying a great deal of water, could be docked in any of the structures which are available.

Secretary Long declares that the most urgent need of the Naval service is an increase of docking facilities. Of the eleven government docks—nine on the Atlantic and two on the Pacific coast—three were designed to accommodate battleships of the first class, one at New York, one at Port Royal, S. C., and one at Bremerton, Wash., on Puget Sound. Civil Engr. M. T. Endicott, who last week visited the Brooklyn Navy Yard, where he was in consultation with Naval Constructor Bowles in regard to making repairs to Dry Dock No. 3, has informed Secretary Long that there is grave danger that the key wall will give way and that the situation is extremely dangerous. It is not believed that this dock will be ready for service until the entrance has been rebuilt, and at least six months and probably longer will be required to perform the work satisfactorily. There is not only an insufficiency of water at the entrance to the Port Royal dry dock, but the cross section of the dock is too small to safely admit battleships with bilge keels affixed. There is but one dock on the Pacific coast of sufficient size to dock a modern battleship. This is on Puget Sound, 900 miles from San Francisco. Access to it is through a narrow channel 20 miles long, one side of which is in possession of a foreign country. The Indiana and Massachusetts were docked some months ago, the former at Halifax and the latter in Dry Dock No. 3, just before the Brooklyn structure developed defects. It is recognized by the Naval authorities that Great Britain would not permit the United States men-of-war to use Canadian or English docks during the progress of a war between the United States and a foreign power and this Government would consequently be thrown on its own resources. At the present time, the Department has been informed that the hulls of battleships Iowa, Indiana and Massachusetts are very foul and that their speed has been materially decreased as a result of the foreign growth which has attached itself to their bottoms.

In case the administration should recognize that a war with a foreign power is inevitable, the first step it would take would be to hasten work on Dry Dock No. 3 at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Besides the docks mentioned above, the Government owns a worn-out floating wooden dock, at Portsmouth, N. H., which was built in 1851; a small and insufficient dock of stone at Boston, laid over fifty years ago; Dry Dock No. 2, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which is considered to be the best dock in service, but which is deteriorating and besides is too small to accommodate battleships; a dry dock at League Island, two dry docks at Norfolk and one at Mare Island.

In his annual report and in a subsequent communication to the Senate and House Naval Committees, Secretary Long urged that docks be constructed at Boston, Portsmouth, N. H., and Mare Island, Cal.; that Dry Dock No. 2 at the New York Navy Yard, be fitted with a concrete entrance and widened sufficiently to accommodate our largest battleships; that the present timber dry dock at League Island be widened and provided with a concrete entrance; and that at Norfolk the short dock be lengthened 150 feet, which will enable it to accommodate all except the very largest ships.

A determined effort is being made to obtain additional dry docks from Congress during the present session. A proposition has been made to the sub-committee on appropriation of the House Naval Committee by the International Dry Dock and Construction Company of New York, which will obviate the necessity of the Government appropriating a large sum of money for the establishment of a dock. The proposition involves the construction of a steel floating dock by a private corporation, which will cost \$1,500,000, and which will be ready for service within nine months. The concession asked from the Government is that it insure the company six per cent. interest on the amount invested for twenty years. For this remuneration, the company proposes to allow the Government the use of the dock for one hundred days each year, and at their own expense to dock and discharge national vessels within that time. In case of war, the company will agree to allow the entire use of the structure on terms to be mutually agreed upon. The advantages of this proposition were presented to the sub-committee by Lawrence A. Downey, the president of the company. Mr. Downey explained that the company's plans contemplate the construction of a steel floating dock 550 feet in length and of more than 15,000 tons capacity, which will be moored at a point between Owl's Head and Red Hook Point, near Brooklyn. Should there be any danger of an attack on the city, Mr. Downey pointed out that the dock could be lightened and floated up the Hudson out of harm's way.

Furthermore, he said that if a vessel were injured the dock could go to sea to meet it, be sunk under the disabled craft and in tow of a tugboat return to the basin, in which the dock can be sunk. It is expected that the Newport News Shipbuilding Company will send a representative before the committee and urge that it be given a concession for the construction of a dry dock. The company has informed the Department of its willingness to construct a dock of the very largest capacity and to be governed by the Department as to its construction, size, materials and character, beginning the work at once and completing it in a year, provided it can be assured of some agreement for its use by the Government.

P. A. Paymr. Edwin B. Webster, to be a Paymaster, from Sept. 26, 1897, (subject to examination), vice Paymr. Griffing, promoted.

P. A. Paymr. George W. Simpson, to be a Paymaster, from Nov. 1, 1897, vice Paymr. Tiffany, deceased.

Ulysses G. Ammen, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Paymaster, from Oct. 1, 1897.

Robert C. Schenck, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Paymaster, from Oct. 20, 1897.

George Brown, Jr., of Indiana, to be an Assistant Paymaster, from Nov. 15, 1897.

NAVY CONFIRMATIONS.

JAN. 14.—Harold H. Haas, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Surgeon.

Arthur O. Sykes, a citizen of New York, to be a Chaplain.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

Capt. Mahan, in his article in "Scribner's" for February, asserts that while the capture of Burgoyne has been classed as one of the "Decisive Battles of the World," it was only made possible by "The invaluable year of delay secured to them in 1776 by their little Navy on Lake Champlain, created by the indomitable energy, and handled with the indomitable courage, of the traitor, Benedict Arnold." This little-appreciated naval campaign is expounded by Capt. Mahan in his usual philosophical manner.

The scheme for a Navy hospital corps provides for twenty-five stations in all, ten at naval hospitals, seven at the Navy Yards, one each at the naval dispensary, naval laboratory, naval museum of hygiene and five on flagships. The present monthly pay of ninety apothecaries at \$60 per month is \$5,400, of ninety laymen at \$18 per month, \$1,620; a total of \$7,020. The proposed monthly pay will equal \$7,700, viz., twenty pharmacists at \$75 a month, \$1,500; five at \$100 a month, \$500; sixty-five hospital stewards at \$60 per month, \$3,900; thirty hospital apprentices, first class, at \$24 a month, \$720; sixty hospital apprentices at \$18 per month, \$1,080.

The owner of ocean greyhounds has an expensive kennel to keep. It costs one of the transatlantic lines \$10,000 a month for repairs to their vessels. In the shops on the American side there is a duplicate of every bit of machinery used in the make-up of an ocean liner, from enormous pieces of shafting down to the smallest bolt. The International Company has to pay among its other expenses for a professional rat catcher, who clears the ships of the little pests. About fifty rats are caught at the end of each voyage.

The attention of the Government has been called to St. Andrews Bay, Fla., as the possible site for a naval station of supply and repair. There are twelve miles of water there, with several safe and hidden anchorages and room for moving large vessels. The climate is fine, there are no outside dangers of approach, and the tide seldom runs as fast as one mile an hour. It is 62 miles over a level country to the junction of three large railroads at Chattahoochee. There is no entrance to this remarkable body of water at present, but for small vessels; but one can be made at moderate cost. A canal would give a permanent entrance 30 feet deep at least with but five hundred yards of sea jetties. The material for building the inside dams is on the ground. The War Department has reserved the Government ground at San Andrews Bay needed for forts and the proposed canal. Objection is made to the Tortugas as the site for a floating dock because of the want of the land required there for forts and for the homes of workmen. The place is not defensible and there is danger from hurricanes. Key West is about as bad for defense and has only 27 feet of water and no harbor. Algiers has deep water, but there are only 25 feet reliable up South Pass, according to our information. Pensacola has 30 feet inside, but only 22 feet on the bar, and the bar is almost hopeless, and the 30-foot water stops within sight and gunshot of the offing.

When the ironclad Lepanto was in a Spanish port some time ago every one on board, from the Admiral down, chipped in to buy a ticket in a Spanish government lottery. The ticket drew a prize of \$200,000, which has been divided up among the officers and crew.

The Judge Advocate General's Office of the Navy Department is at work preparing the specifications and charges upon which Civil Engineer A. G. Menocal will be tried. Gen. Lemly will recommend the officers who shall compose the court. Civil Engr. M. T. Endicott, on duty as assistant to Rear Adm. E. O. Matthews, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, will probably be one of the Civil Engineers detailed on the court.

The Hai Tien, the latest addition to the Imperial Chinese navy, is 396 feet long, 46 feet 8 inches beam; 16 feet 9 inches mean draught, with a displacement of about 4,300 tons. She will carry two 8-inch breech-loading guns, one forward the other aft; ten 4.7 quick-fire guns, 18 3-pounder quick-fire guns, 4 37-mm. Maxim, 6 rifle caliber Maxim's, and 5 torpedo tubes. Her protective deck is of 5-inch steel on the sloping parts, diminishing to 1½ inches in center, which is horizontal; 6-inch steel is used for the sides of the conning tower. Her hull is provided with cellular bottom throughout, while above she is divided into numerous water-tight compartments by efficient bulkheads. She has bunker capacity for stowing 1,000 tons of coal. It is anticipated that something like 24 knots will be her trial speed with forced draught. She is to be provided with two masts with fighting tops, and a pair of somewhat large funnels. Three powerful searchlights will form part of her equipment. She has been built at the Armstrong Works at Newcastle-on-Tyne. A dispatch from Madrid reports that the old Spanish warships Numancia and Vitoria on Jan. 12 left the dock yard where they have been transformed into serviceable, well-armed vessels, and have received batteries of quick-firing guns. It is estimated that they will now be capable of developing a speed of from fourteen to fifteen knots.

Secretary Long, in a letter to the House Committee on Naval Affairs, proposes to abolish the Navy corps of Professor of Mathematics and to appoint five civilian astronomers in lieu of those at the Naval Academy. As they will not have the benefit of the retiring law, a considerable saving will be effected.

The Navy Department is now wrestling with a "phantom" battleship, as Chief Naval Constructor Hichborn calls it. In anticipation that Congress will authorize the construction of one battleship as recommended by Secretary Long, of the one battleship of the pneumatic arrangement for operating guns, turrets, etc., are making a strong effort to secure the adoption of the system on board that vessel when built. The matter was considered a few days ago by the Board of Construction, but the board decided that it would be wise to refer it to experts for decision, and accordingly made a recommendation to this effect to Secretary Long. Chief Naval Constructor Hichborn will begin to prepare plans for the proposed ship when it seems certain that Congress will authorize it.

The Japanese cruiser Kasagi was successfully launched from the yards of Messrs. Cramp at Philadelphia on

THE NAVY.

J. D. LONG, Secretary. T. ROOSEVELT, Asst. Secretary.

NAVY GAZETTE.

The orders of Jan. 13 were published in the "Army and Navy Journal" of Jan. 15, page 358.

JAN. 14.—Acting Carpenter A. R. Mackie, detached from the New York, home, and wait orders.

Chief Engr. L. J. Allen, detached from the Continental Iron Works, Brooklyn, and ordered to the Union Iron Works, San Francisco, Cal.

Ensign F. B. Upham, appointed Watch and Division Officer on the Olympia, upon detachment of Lieut. W. G. Miller, about March 1, 1898.

Lieut. W. G. Miller, detached from the Olympia about March 1, ordered home in the United States, and granted two months' leave.

Lieut. A. M. Beecher, detached from the Gedney, Feb. 1, ordered home and granted two months' leave.

Lieut. J. P. McGuinness, detached from the Albatross, Feb. 5, ordered home and granted two months.

Ensign W. A. Moffett may delay one month in reporting on board the Mohican.

Lieut. Arthur W. Dodd, detached from the Monadnock, Feb. 8, ordered home, and granted two months' leave, with permission to delay reporting home.

JAN. 15.—Chief Engr. A. C. Engard, ordered from the Richmond to the Baltimore, per steamer, Jan. 25.

Chief Engr. A. Kirby, detached from the Baltimore and ordered to the Hospital at San Francisco.

Sailmaker T. B. White, ordered to the Columbia.

Acting Carpenter J. H. Gill, ordered to the New York Yard.

Acting Carpenter C. Thompson, ordered to the New York Yard.

Paymaster's Clerk G. T. Southgate, given permission to appear for examination as Assistant Paymaster, Jan. 17.

Paymaster's Clerk S. F. Rose, appointed on board the Mohican at the nomination of Paymr. J. E. Cann.

Civil Engr. A. G. Menocal, ordered to return to New York and report his arrival by telegraph.

JAN. 17.—Surgeon A. G. Cabell, ordered home and granted three months' sick leave.

Lieut. S. W. B. Diehl, detached from the Office of Naval Intelligence and ordered to the Bureau of Equipment.

Lieut. Comdr. G. B. Harber, detached from the Bureau of Equipment, Jan. 22, and ordered to the Texas.

Lieut. N. J. K. Patch, order of Dec. 23 modified. On completion of examination, ordered home and wait orders.

Capt. C. S. Cotton, ordered to the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.

Chief Engr. A. C. Engard, authorized to delay and to take steamer of Feb. 3 instead of Jan. 25.

JAN. 19.—Chief Engr. J. D. Ford, detached from the Brooklyn Jan. 25 and ordered to the Baltimore per steamer Feb. 3.

Chief Engr. J. H. Perry, detached from Armor Factory Board and ordered to the Brooklyn Jan. 25.

P. A. Surg. A. W. Dunbar, order of Jan. 12 modified.

Detached from the Nashville and ordered to the San Francisco per steamer Jan. 22.

P. A. Engr. J. K. Robison, detached from the Mount

roy, ordered home and granted two months leave.

Ensign A. H. Seales, detached from the Branch Hydrographic Office, Cleveland, and ordered to Sault Ste. Marie in charge of the Branch Office.

Ensign G. C. Day, detached from the Branch Hydrographic Office, Cleveland, and ordered to Duluth in charge of Branch Office.

Asst. Engr. A. M. Proctor, detached from the Brooklyn and ordered to the San Francisco per steamer Jan. 22.

Lieut. T. W. Ryan, ordered to the Navy Yard, New York, Feb. 1.

Comdr. W. M. Folger, detached from the 10th Light House District and ordered to the 3d Light House District.

Comdr. A. S. Snow, relieved from command of 3d Light House District and placed on waiting orders.

JAN. 21.—Ensign G. L. P. Stone, transferred from the New York to the Maine when these vessels fall in together.

Ensign F. P. Baldwin, detached from the Marblehead on the arrival of the Brooklyn at Key West, and to the Brooklyn at once.

Mate A. Anderson, transferred from the Vermont to the Brooklyn.

Chief Engr. A. C. Engard, order of Jan. 15 modified, so as when detached from the Richmond he is ordered home to wait orders.

MARINE CORPS ORDERS.

JAN. 20.—Capt. Charles L. McCawley, A. Q. M., detailed for duty in connection with official functions at the Executive Mansion during the current season.

1st Lieut. C. G. Long, granted three days leave of absence from 16th inst.

Maj. Charles Williams, ordered to proceed to Navy Yard, New York, on temporary duty.

NAVY NOMINATIONS.

The following nominations for promotion and appointment in the Navy have been received by the Senate:

JAN. 18.—Ensign Edward H. Durell, to be a Lieutenant (J. G.), from July 21, 1897, vice Lieut. (J. G.) Hoogen

erff, promoted.

Ensign Archibald H. Scales, to be a Lieutenant (J. G.), from Aug. 28, 1897, vice Lieut. (J. G.) Capehart, promoted.

Ensign Ford H. Brown, to be a Lieutenant (J. G.), from Sept. 16, 1897, (subject to examination), vice Lieut. (J. G.) Wilson, promoted.

Ensign Clarence M. Stone, to be a Lieutenant (J. G.), from Sept. 16, 1897, vice Lieut. (J. G.) George P. Blow, promoted.

Ensign Thomas Washington, to be a Lieutenant (J. G.), from Sept. 16, 1897, vice Lieut. (J. G.) Wood, promoted.

P. A. Paymr. Willis B. Wilcox, to be a Paymaster, from July 9, 1897, vice Paymr. Corwine, dismissed.

of the Army, calling attention to a defect in the law authorizing the detail of Army and Navy officers at institutions of learning.

Mr. Cummings, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred the bill H. R. 1112, reported in lieu thereof a bill (H. R. 6636) to amend Section 5 of an act to relieve certain appointed or enlisted men of the Navy and Marine Corps from the charge of desertion, approved Aug. 14, 1888, accompanied by a report (No. 138).

Favorable reports have been presented in the House on the bills authorizing the President to appoint Lieut. Robert Platt, U. S. N., to the rank of Commander; for the relief of William P. McMurtry; for the relief of Sergt. James W. Kingon; for the relief of Julius A. Kaiser.

Mr. Dalzell introduced a Resolution of the Military Order of Foreign Wars, Pennsylvania Commandery, in favor of Government ownership of Fort Ticonderoga.

The Senate Committee on Library has reported favorably a bill appropriating \$50,000 for a statue to Abraham Lincoln on the battlefield of Gettysburg, with which, the committee says, his name will ever be connected because of the memorable speech he delivered there at the close of the war.

A bill introduced in the House by Representative Howe provides that the veterans of the Army or Navy who served during the War of the Rebellion shall have preference over others in the Government service. Under the bill they are not to be removed except for good cause and on charges and hearing, and pensioners employed at a salary of \$1,200 or more are to surrender pensions while employed.

The following acts have been referred to the House Committee on Pensions: Acts to pension the widows of Chief Engr. George Sewell, U. S. N.; Gen. B. S. Roberts, U. S. A.; Brig. Gen. S. D. Sturgis, U. S. A., and Lieut. Col. Wm. Silvey, U. S. A.; Maj. Gen. C. M. Clay, Gen. James W. McMillan, Capt. J. H. Mullan, Prof. James S. Mercur, U. S. A.; Gen. S. A. Rice.

In the Senate Mr. Hawley submitted a concurrent resolution providing for printing 8,000 copies of the chronological list of battles in which troops of the permanent establishment have participated from the organization of the Army in 1789, together with statistics of losses and the names of officers wounded or killed in action.

The bill (S. 2753) was passed. It proposes to set aside the action of the Board by which P. A. Paymr. Louis A. Yorke was examined for promotion, and authorizes the President to appoint him to the office to which he would have been promoted but for said action, and to retire him at that grade as of the date he was wholly retired.

The Vice-President laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting a letter of Gen. Miles, of May 4, 1897, submitting his views on the expenditure of money for the construction of U. S. buildings connected with the new fortifications, etc.

The bills (S. 2399), (S. 2398) to pay the Union Iron Works for extra work were reported without amendment, and also (S. 2771) for the relief of certain enlisted men of the Marine Corps; and (S. 399) to provide for promoting Capt. William N. Tisdall, retired, to the rank of Major.

The House Naval Committee, in favorably reporting the bill to promote Asst. Engr. Julius A. Kaiser, U. S. N., retired, adopt as their report the report presented to the 48th Congress.

In their report on the bill for the relief of Comdr. Joshua Bishop, U. S. N., the House Naval Committee give a letter from Secretary Long showing that the bill simply provides for the submission to the Court of Claims of Comdr. Bishop's claim for pay due and unpaid.

A letter from the Assistant Secretary of War was presented in the House advising a change in the law so as to authorize military instruction in any educational institution at which instruction and practical drill in military tactics are not given to at least one hundred students during each scholastic term.

The House Naval Committee have adopted as their report in the case of the bill authorizing the appointment of Lieut. Robert Platt, U. S. N., to the rank of Commander, the House report No. 2606, of the 54th Congress. It gives an account of the distinguished services that entitle him to this consideration.

H. R. 62, for the restoration of P. A. Engr. James Edward Palmer has been reported in the House with an amendment requiring him to pass a physical, mental, moral and professional examination preliminary to restoration. He was discharged as supernumerary under the act of Aug. 5, 1882.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

S. 3012—Mr. Frye: That all officers of the grade of Chief Engineer in the Revenue Cutter Service of the United States who have served, or who may hereafter serve, for a period of five years from date of commission as Chief Engineer shall receive a salary of \$2,100 per annum while on duty and \$1,500 while on leave or waiting orders, under the provisions of Section 2753, Revised Statutes.

Sec. 2. That the President be, and is hereby, authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, one Naval Constructor in and for the Revenue Cutter Service, who shall have the relative rank and pay of a 1st Lieutenant in said service, as prescribed in Section 2753, Revised Statutes.

Sec. 3. That Section 4714, Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows: "The enlisted men of the Revenue Cutter Service of the United States who have been or may be wounded or disabled while in the actual discharge of their duties shall be entitled to be placed upon a pension list, under the same regulations and restrictions as are now provided by law for enlisted men of the Navy."

S. 3013—Mr. Hale: Amends Section 4813, Revised Statutes, so as to read: "Whenever any officer, seaman or marine entitled to a pension is admitted to the Naval Home at Philadelphia the pension, so long only as he remains a beneficiary of the Home, shall be deducted from his accounts and paid to the Secretary of the Navy for the benefit of the Naval pension fund; and if such pensioner, or any Naval officer, seaman or marine entitled to a pension is admitted to a Naval hospital the pension, during his continuance in the hospital, shall be deducted from his accounts and paid to the Secretary of the Navy for the benefit of the Naval hospital fund."

S. 3014—Mr. Hale: Amends Sections 1529 and 1530, Revised Statutes, so as to read as follows: "Sec. 1529. Vessels of the Navy of the United States, except torpedo boats and other special vessels, shall be divided into four classes, and shall be commanded, as nearly as may be, as follows: First and second rates by commanders, second and third rates by lieutenants, fourth rates by lieutenants commanders and lieutenants, torpedo boats and other unclassified vessels, by officers of below the grade of lieutenant commander."

Sec. 1530. Vessels of 5,000 tons displacement or more shall be classed as first rates; those of 3,000 tons or more and below 5,000 tons, as second rates; those of 1,000 tons or more and below 3,000 tons, as third rates; those of less than 1,000 tons, as fourth rates."

S. 3015—Mr. Hale: Authorizes the acceptance of a certified check instead of a bond on proposals for Naval supplies.

S. 3168—Mr. Hale (by request): Abolishes the naval corps of professors of mathematics and provides for filling vacancies accruing by the retirement of or otherwise, with five astronomers, distinguished in civil life, to receive \$3,500 the first five years; \$4,000 the second five years; and afterward \$4,500.

S. 3170—Mr. Davis: Appropriates \$5,000 for a monument on the site of Lundy's Lane battle.

S. 3174—Mr. Spooner (by request): This is another bill to prevent the desecration of the American flag.

S. 3185—Mr. Martin: Appropriates \$150,000 for the purchase of 50 acres of land to be added to the Gosport Navy Yard for the purpose of constructing a wet dock and for other purposes.

H. R. 2550—Mr. Jenkins: To establish a national park and to erect a peace monument at Appomattox, in the State of Virginia.

H. R. 5875—Mr. Epes: Provides for a national military park at Petersburg, Va., "for the purpose of preserving and suitably marking for historical and professional military study some fields of battle whereon were executed some of the most important maneuvers and occurred some of the most brilliant fighting in the War of the Rebellion." Appropriates \$125,000.

H. R. 6188 grants an honorable discharge to Lieut. Comdr. W. L. Stone.

H. R. 6217 authorizes payment of heirs of the late Col. Isaac C. Woodruff, C. E., of \$3,595 lost by the dishonesty of a clerk.

H. R. 6346—Mr. Bull: Appropriates \$50,000 to establish a Naval Reserve whose members are to be exempt from land service and the officers to be borne on the Navy Register. They are to serve only in time of war. The vessels are to fly a distinctive flag. Any officer of the Navy on the active list below the grade of Lieutenant Commander, may, upon his own application, be transferred to the Naval Reserve at one-half pay and compensation to which he is entitled in the Navy.

H. R. 6356—Mr. Sulzer: Authorizing presentations of medals to any persons who have been attached to the Army and performing services therewith, who have distinguished themselves by conspicuous bravery in action.

H. R. 6556—Mr. Hull (by request): To amend Section 1225 of the Revised Statutes so as to provide for detail of officers of the Army and Navy to assist in military instruction in our public schools.

H. R. 6556—Mr. Hull (by request): Provides for the amendment of Sec. 1225, R. S., so as to permit the detail of officers and non-commissioned officers of the Army and Navy, to act as instructors in military drill and tactics in normal schools of the several States, and in the public schools of the various cities in the United States where such instruction shall have been authorized by the educational authorities thereof, and where the services of such instructors shall have been applied for by said authorities. The details are to be according to population; officers not beyond the rank of Captain to cities of 100,000 and over; Sergeants to cities of 50,000 to 100,000; Corporals to cities of 25,000 to 50,000. The detail is not to exceed fifty, exclusive of present details provided for. The cities are to pay commutation of quarters and extra duty pay. Ordnance and ordnance stores are to be issued for instruction.

H. R. 6598—Mr. Low: To appoint Commo. James H. Gillis, U. S. N., now on the retired list, to the rank and pay of Rear Admiral, retired.

H. R. 6635—To pay for private property lost on the steamer Yantic, May 21, 1889, as provided by the act of March 2, 1895.

H. R. 6636—(Mr. Cummings reported this as a substitute for H. R. 1112): Revises and re-enacts the act of Aug. 14, 1888, to relieve certain appointed or enlisted men of the Navy and Marine Corps from the charge of desertion, removing the limitation of time in the act.

H. R. 6653—Mr. Bromell: Provides that all persons employed upon public works of engineering entrusted to the Engineer Department, excepting such as may be in the employ of contractors, shall be selected and hired by the officer of the Corps of Engineers in local charge of those works, subject to such regulations as may from time to time be established by the Chief of Engineers and approved by the Secretary of War, in order that each officer may be held to a strict responsibility for the proper execution of the work in his charge.

H. R. 6665—Mr. Brownlow: To authorize the Quartermaster General to investigate the claim of George F. Brott for logs used in the construction of Fort Abercrombie, Dak., and pay the same.

H. R. 6686—Mr. Stone: Giving William R. Mayo the rank and pay of a Rear Admiral on the retired list of the Navy.

H. R. 6816—Mr. Russell: To pay certain judgments against John C. Bates and Jonathan A. Yeckley, Captain and 1st Lieutenant, U. S. A., for acts done by them under orders of their superior officers.

TRIBUTE TO AN ARMY OFFICER.

Some three seasons ago, when the 7th Regt., New York, was on its tour at the State Camp, Bvt. Gen. Guy V. Henry, Colonel of the 10th U. S. Cav., who was on duty at the camp, established a daily theoretical school for non-commissioned officers, which proved at once so popular and instructive, that even privates in the regiment scrambled for admission to get the benefits of the General's instruction. Not alone at theoretical schools either, but at other times was Gen. Henry asked innumerable questions which he invariably took pains to answer, and always in an agreeable and entertaining way, and the humblest private felt no restriction in asking an audience with the battle-scarred representative of the regular service. The 7th Regt. felt very grateful to Gen. Henry, and told him so at the time, but in further appreciation of his interest in them, they determined to give him a substantial and lasting token of their esteem. It was accordingly decided to have a life-size portrait painted of Gen. Henry, three-quarter figure, in full dress uniform, which should be sent to West Point to find place with other portraits there. The best painting that could be procured was demanded, and the task was finally intrusted to Mr. Irving R. Wiles by Col. Appleton, who approved his merits as an artist, from the fact that although a young man, his paintings had won first prize at all exhibits he had taken part in. The work of the artist cannot be too highly praised, and the portrait of Gen. Henry, now completed and on exhibition at the armory, in a beautiful gilt frame, is life itself, and those who are familiar with the features and pose of the General will say that no portrait more true to life than the one in question will be found among those which grace the walls at West Point.

Lord Wolseley admits that England cannot put two perfectly equipped army corps in the field. Sir Charles Dilke thinks that she cannot put one in the field. But whether she can put one or two, there is no doubt, says the "Saturday Review," that on the active list we have seven field marshals and 223 other general officers, and if we take the reserved and retired general officers we have 1,529. That is, if Sir Charles Dilke is right, we could furnish a general officer for every twenty men we could put in the field.

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THE ARMY BILL BEFORE CONGRESS.

(Continued from page 377.)

our Army we have no horse batteries. The horse battery, and, for that matter, the field battery, performs a great part of its work in connection with the cavalry. Like the cavalry, it is impossible to make good artillerymen in a very short time. On a peace footing our fortress artillery is not one-half as strong as it should be; our field artillery is also about one-third as strong as it should be; our officers and men are not encouraged to become experts in one branch of the artillery, but are expected to become masters of both branches.

DEFECTS IN THE STAFF.

One of the greatest defects, if not the greatest defect, in the organization of our Army, is the lack of a properly instructed and capable staff corps. Including post chaplains of the rank of captain, there are in our Army 528 staff officers as against 1,622 line officers; in addition to which 321 line officers are absent from their regiments on staff detail, or a total of 851 staff officers, leaving only 1,299 officers serving with troops—a number of staff officers ridiculously out of all proportion to the work performed by them. The staff as at present organized is cumbersome, wasteful and inefficient, and made up as it is, by the appointment in many cases of officers having no fitness for the duties to which they are assigned, it is necessarily incompetent, untrained, and ignorant.

"No provision is made for the training of officers to act as chiefs of staff of Army corps and divisions in case of war, or of aides-de-camp and recruiting officers. One of the greatest handicaps of our general officers during the Civil War was an entire absence of competent and trained staff officers.

"Our staff is recruited in many cases by the appointment of officers from civil life, or it has been in the past, officers who are utterly unfit, and from their experience cannot be supposed to know anything whatever about military matters. In many other cases it is recruited by the appointment of line officers, whose only apparent recommendation is the fact that they have influence. They are commissioned at once to the department of the staff in which they are to serve for the remainder of their career, and are never again given an opportunity either to serve with troops or to learn the necessities and needs of troops.

"It speaks badly for the morale and the professional instincts of so many of our young line officers that their one all-consuming ambition seems to be not to become good line officers, not to serve with troops, but to obtain transfers, either permanent or at least temporary, to one of the various staff departments. The duties of several of our staff departments are purely clerical, and the work performed by the officers in these departments could be as well and probably better performed by civilian clerks at \$800 or \$1,000 a year. We have at the present time only 2,000,000 rounds of reserve ammunition for the new magazine small arm. An expenditure of \$62,000 would be sufficient to so enlarge the cartridge plant that the capacity would be large enough to meet emergencies.

"Because of our unwillingness to spend \$62,000 to make the United States, in this respect, at least, absolutely independent of the whole of the rest of the world, we will find ourselves, in case of war, at the mercy of the private cartridge manufacturers, who will be in a position to charge anything they may see fit when we need the cartridges. Of course the present state of affairs would necessitate our arming a volunteer army almost entirely with the old Springfield 45, of which we have 245,000 in very fair condition on hand. We have a reserve of 4,000,000 rounds of ammunition, or an average of about 16 rounds to each rifle, which ought to keep the 245,000 rifles actively employed in action for, say, a quarter of an hour. And, moreover, the result of using two rifles, one scarcely accurate at 600 yards and the other absolutely deadly at 2,000, with two different kinds of ammunition, would only lead to the most horrible disaster.

"It is hoped that eventually a sufficient reserve of field guns may be manufactured to meet the requirements of possible war. The capacity of the Watervliet arsenal is 160 field guns per annum, or 100 field and 50 siege guns, working eight hours. An appropriation of \$27,000 would increase the capacity sufficiently to meet emergencies, so that working sixteen hours the output would be 500 field guns, or 320 field and 140 siege guns.

"We have practically no reserve ammunition for our field guns. If war were declared to-morrow, we would have to send our batteries to the front without a single round of ammunition, unless we bought it from private manufacturers. The suggested appropriation of \$62,000 includes an increase in the capacity for the manufacture of additional ammunition for field guns.

MANEUVERS.

"As a state of actual warfare cannot exist in time of peace and as actual warfare is the only perfect school for the training of troops, the nearest approach to its conditions must be found in time of peace. This substitute in all European armies, and a very good substitute it is, is the great maneuver. The course of training of all troops of the same arm is uniform. The course of each year is divided systematically into periods from the training of the individual soldier up to the great combined exercises, care being taken to have all arms and troops ready for war at all times.

"It is not pleasant to contrast in this particular our Army with those of Europe. With the exception of our officers who saw service in the Civil War, and they are becoming fewer and fewer as the years go by, hardly any of our officers have ever served, except possibly in some street parade, with a larger body of troops than the corps of cadets at West Point. Those of our officers who did see service in the Civil War must in thirty-three years have lost much of the benefit derived from that experience. Of late years the policy has been pursued of giving up the useless and unnecessary posts and concentrating our troops at fewer posts in larger numbers. This policy, however, has not been carried far enough. We have not a post to-day where more than 800 men serve together, except at the Presidio in California—scarcely a European battalion. Congress never permits that our troops be brought together temporarily in large numbers for the purpose of grand maneuvers. Well educated as our officers undoubtedly are, they will never be as good as they ought to be until they are permitted to have practical experience in their profession. Stationed in small garrisons, never taking part in the drill of a larger body of men than a battalion, the natural tendency is to restrict the horizon of our officers' vision, to make them insistent upon details at the expense of the great essentials, for during their lives as officers they are never brought face to face with the great essentials of warfare, while the petty details of a one or two company post are always present.

"Promotion is slow, fearfully slow. Up to the rank of colonel it depends upon seniority and not on individual effort, and after that to a great extent upon political influence. We have no general staff, the hope of possible promotion to which acts as a constant stimulus to the ambitious officer, and the door of entrance to our staff departments is closed to all officers without influence. The officers of the United States Army are as fine a

body of men as can be found anywhere in the world. They are Americans, and what is more, when they leave West Point they are well educated Americans, and yet all that education is, nine cases out of ten, almost wasted in our small posts.

"We educate a man at West Point in the theory of commanding an army corps or an army; when he graduates he knows that the best part of his life will be spent in commanding a corporal's guard. Small blame to our officers that many of them become petty and exacting, that many of them become martinets, and that many of them in whom ambition is dead lose all interest in their profession.

"You and I may criticise this department and that department, as I have very freely criticised to-day, and yet every criticism we make, every word of censure we utter is really made and uttered against ourselves. With the exception of a few gentlemen, we are a lot of absolutely ignorant laymen, as unfit to meddle with the details of army organization as we would be to manage the Naval Observatory. We are too much inclined to think of our Army as a political machine. We have encouraged a feeling of dependence upon Congress on the part of our Army officers. It is our fault that the methods of the primary—let us be frank—that politics have crept into the Army; so much so that we are getting to believe that the first requisite for a good Army officer is not that he should be familiar with his profession, but that he should be a good politician.

"Yet since I have been in Congress I have seen officers of almost all ranks, from high to low, from all arms and branches of the service, persistently haunting the lobbies and committee rooms, and even the floor of this House before its meetings; I have seen them using all the influence, political and social, at their command for the purpose of either obtaining legislation which will benefit them personally, or favors, or assignments, or promotions which will be for their own individual good.

No proposition to reorganize any one branch of the service has ever been made that it has not been opposed desperately by every other branch of the service, from the fear, apparently, that the officers of the reorganized branch may obtain some possible advantage over their less fortunate comrades. I have never heard of any proposition for a reduction of any one or for the consolidation of any two or more of the staff departments that has not been opposed, and opposed successfully, in Congress through the efforts of the officers personally interested.

"The pension roll is an honor to the nation, but the active list of the Army should not be a pension roll. If officers are unfit for the duties which they are supposed to perform, whether from ignorance or from old age, unfeeling as it may seem to say so, they should either be retired or dismissed.

"No department of the staff of the Army is charged with what is the all-important duty of preparing for war. There exists in the War Department not a single plan of campaign with a possible enemy; not a single skeleton order looking to the mobilization of troops, the enlistment of volunteers, or the enrollment of the militia; not a single plan for the formation of camps of instruction for volunteers; not a single plan for the movement of troops or for their supplies. In fact, we are as absolutely unprepared for war so far as is concerned the expanding of the Army in time of war as we are unprepared for war insofar as is concerned the organization of the Army in time of peace. The organized militia of the country would be of very little service to us; no reliable data exist as to its organization or discipline.

"The United States officers who are sent to inspect the militia of other States and who report upon them have very evidently, with but few exceptions, been influenced more by a desire to be courteous to the National Guardsmen, whose guests they have been, than by a desire to state plain, unvarnished, and possibly uncomplimentary facts. In case of mobilization but a small part of our militia would be of more service than raw recruits, and in many instances they would not be as serviceable, for they would have to unlearn what they had been improperly taught. While we may be better off for war to-day than in 1861, it is doubtful if we could put an army into the field now in less time than we could then. It is doubtful if we could put an army of half a million or a quarter of a million men into the field capable of marching on Canada in less than six months.

"Although our Army is utterly unprepared for war, it has become the fashion to assume that the United States is invulnerable both on sea and land. Our preparation for war in time of peace must be a small standing army, perfect in its organization and capable of great expansion in case of need. You gentlemen on the other side have the majority at both ends of the Capitol. You have the President. The responsibility is yours; but not more yours than it is ours. This is not a party question; this is not a sectional issue. It is the duty of Congress, representing not any one party or any one section, but representing the whole American people, to see to it that our Army is, for its size, as nearly perfect as human experience and human knowledge can make it." (Loud Applause.)

FIGHTING EFFICIENCY OF OUR VESSELS.

Secretary Long has sent a recommendation to Congress for an appropriation of \$50,000 for improvements in the battery of the Chicago, and accompanying it is a strong report of Assistant Secretary Roosevelt in which he says: "I earnestly wish we could as soon as possible withdraw from active service the cruisers fitted with slow-firing guns and substitute ships with rapid-fire batteries. At present the real fighting efficiency of ships like the Raleigh, Cincinnati, Marblehead, Montgomery and Olympia compared with foreign vessels of the same nominal class stands high, while the reverse is the case of ships like the Baltimore, San Francisco and Yorktown. I have just been talking with Capt. Cotton, who commanded the Philadelphia when she lay side by side with the Japanese cruiser Naniwa at Hawaii. In event of a fight the Naniwa's possibility of efficiency probably would have been twice as great. The Philadelphia's twelve 6-inch guns were of the old-fashioned, slow-fire type, six in broadside. Against these six the Naniwa would have pitted two ten-inch pivot guns and three of her six rapid-fire 6-inch guns. From three guns alone her skilled crews could get more than double the volume of area than would have been possible to obtain from the six guns of the Philadelphia, while we would have nothing to oppose the Naniwa's ten-inch guns. The place of the Philadelphia was taken by the Baltimore. The latter would have put two 8-inch guns, old-fashioned slow-type, against two 10-inch guns of the Naniwa, and out in broadside three slow-fire 6-inch guns against the three rapid-fire guns of small caliber on the Japanese ship. If hostilities had occurred and we had lost a ship like either of these in a single fight with another ship of the same nominal force we could never erase its memory from our national records."

A schoolboy wrote: "Soldiers are of three kinds—tin soldiers, real soldiers, and Volunteers."

RESTORATION OF NAVY OFFICERS

To the Editor of the "Army and Navy Journal."

Ensign Kittelle, referring to the proposed restoration of discharged Navy officers insists that the latter should be restored to the foot of the grades of Ensign and Assistant Engineers, to "work their way up in the regular course of the service, as all others have had to do." This would have been more convincing if Ensign Kittelle had explained what he means by "working their way up." An officer in the Navy does his duty, as a matter of course, and incidentally furnishes an object lesson in practical economy, of great value to the community, by continuing to exist and bring up a family on his pay. But his advance under the present seniority system is dependent not upon his affirmative action, however meritorious, but upon his negative ability to keep clear of courts martial. Wherefore it results that if he spends his existence writing "fillers" for New York newspapers, or in leading garrisons in Washington, or on successively recurring sick leaves, just to windward of the Retiring Board, or in holding down desks in the Bureaus with his heels, he is engaged in "working his way up" as certainly as is his comrade who continually planks the deck or who distinguishes himself by special attainments in any branch of his profession, or who increases by his inventive genius the efficiency of the Navy.

The right of the Government to utilize the education it has paid for is indisputable, and this whether the recipients are in the service or out of it. The real question at issue is whether or not the individuals are fitted for the duties which, if restored, they will be called upon to perform. If proper tests show them to be so qualified, the peril of their detracting "from the dignity of the naval profession to say nothing of its efficiency, rendering it amateurish" Congress will have to meet as best it can.

Ensign Kittelle, like some others in the Navy, seems to suppose that an officer has a prescriptive right to advancement and promotion based on the assumption that the people, when he entered the Navy, made some sort of contract with him not to modify the conditions which then existed, from which by the mortality rules and the retiring law, he could construct a time-table, showing where he ought to be at certain points of his career—like a railroad train. But the courts have decided otherwise; and even his tenure of office, as his commission informs him, is dependent upon the "pleasure" of the President. Naturally enough he may not like to have people put on the list ahead of him. Indeed, there are some officers far older than Ensign Kittelle in whose breasts still rankle the transfer of the volunteers of the war to the regular service, and even the advancement in numbers of the men who fought at Fort Fisher. But they realize, as he will, in time, that this is one of those little drawbacks to perfect enjoyment which crumple the rose-leaves in all pillows, and which must find its compensation in the dignity, social advantages, and public honor which go with his uniform; and that like the policeman in "The Pirates of Penzance" whose "feelings are with difficulty smothered when constabulary duty's to be done," he "should have thought of all that before he joined the force."

P. B., '67.

In connection with this we publish a portion of Ensign Kittelle's letter which we were obliged to omit last week for want of space.

Ensign Kittelle says: The officers thus overslaughed in promotion have served honorably and faithfully, the seniors for 19½ years, and their promotion has been discouragingly slow, but they have always looked forward to an ultimate rise with perfect confidence in the justice of their cause. The effect of this measure would be to destroy such confidence and hopelessly disappoint and discourage them. The graduates proposed for commissions as Junior Lieutenant and Ensign were all good men at the time of the graduation, but they were not equal to those retained in the service, because in four years of fair competition they fell below in the standard of efficiency, and they were largely educated in the schools of the old-fashioned frigate and muzzle-loading gun, for prior to 1885 no modern ships were in active service, and prior to 1887 only the Atlanta, Boston, and Dolphin, the last having no naval cadets on board.

During the 8½ to 14½ years that these gentlemen have been in civil life, the material of the Navy has been revolutionized, and the armored battleship, with its high powered ordnance, automobile torpedoes, and electricity, has succeeded the wooden frigate, and the latter has disappeared. In these 14 years of the new Navy's growth the officers of the Navy have been growing correspondingly in knowledge and experience, in order to merit the great responsibility that devolves upon them. They have been afloat in the various types of new vessels gaining necessary practical experience, and Ensigns have served eight years in that grade before promotion to Junior Lieutenant. The joint resolution would, however, create Junior Lieutenants out of the inexperienced men who have not earned such promotion by serving through the grade of Ensign, and who have lost touch with practical naval life for many years.

The hardship suffered by the discharged graduates under the Act of August 5, 1882, was not so great as that since suffered by every officer in the naval service, under the same Act of Congress, which reduced the number of Rear Admirals to 6, Commodores from 25 to 10, Captains from 50 to 45, Commanders from 90 to 85, Lieutenant Commanders from 80 to 74, Lieutenants from 280 to 250, Lieutenant (junior grade) from 100 to 75, and Ensigns from 100 to 75, the last having been since increased to 181. For this cutting down of the list is the cause of the great stagnation in promotion which has existed for the past 15 years, and for the relief of which so many personnel measures have been attempted. The discharged graduates returned to civil life with an excellent education, one thousand dollars, and at an age when young men in civil life are just beginning to study a profession or making their start in business.

LEE'S EXPLANATION OF FIVE FORKS.

The New Orleans "Times-Democrat" publishes the following letter on the results of his lack of cavalry at Five Forks. It was addressed to Wade Hampton:

"Near Cartersville, Aug. 15, 1865.—My Dear General: I was very much gratified yesterday at the reception of your letter of the 5th ultimo. I have been very anxious concerning you and could obtain no satisfactory information. You cannot regret as much as I did that you were not with us at our final struggle. The absence of the troops which I had sent to North and South Carolina was, I believe, the immediate cause of our disaster. Our small force of cavalry (a large portion of the men who had been sent to the interior to winter their horses had not rejoined their regiments) was unable to resist the united Federal cavalry under Sheridan, which obliged me to detach Pickett's division to Fitz Lee's support, weakening my main line and yet not accomplishing my purpose. If you had been there with all of our cavalry the result at Five Forks would have been different. . . . That every happiness may attend you and yours is the sincere wish of your friend, R. E. LEE."

SOCIETY OF NAVAL ENGINEERS.

The members of the American Society of Naval Engineers attended a banquet Saturday evening, Jan. 8, at the Maison Rauscher, Washington. Mr. J. C. Kafer of New York acted as toastmaster. Among those who attended were Gen. Mertwago, Naval Attaché of the Russian Legation; Col. D. P. Jones, Chicago; Chief Engr. E. B. Robbie, U. S. N.; Chief Engr. A. V. Zane, U. S. N.; Chief Engr. G. W. Baird, U. S. N.; Chief Engr. A. B. Canaga, U. S. N.; P. A. Engr. C. A. McAllister, U. S. R. M.; P. A. Engrs. Dyson, M. E. Reed, W. W. White, W. M. McFarland, R. C. Bryan, F. C. Bieg, E. Sheiss, H. P. Naughton, and C. A. E. King, U. S. N.

The chief feature of the meeting preceding the banquet was the reading and discussion of the prize essay by P. A. Engr. W. W. White, U. S. N. His paper was entitled "Facts, Not Fiction," its subject being "Steam Consumption of the Main and Auxiliary Machinery of the U. S. S. Minneapolis."

Great interest was manifested in the paper, and it was generally discussed by the engineers present. Mr. McFarland declared that the society was to be congratulated on possessing such a valuable document. Mr. F. W. Wheeler, of New York, declared that thousands of dollars in heat was being annually washed into the sea from Government war vessels in the shape of the hot water and steam pumped out by the circulating machines. An auxiliary heating system should be installed, he said, and this waste water used for heating the water that is later pumped into the boilers.

In a paper on "American Steam Yachts" by Mr. Irving Cox, it was stated for a first-class cruiser, entertaining ten guests, the cost of maintenance is from \$3,600 to \$4,000 per month.

Papers were read on "Test of the Niclausse Safety Water Tube Boiler," by J. M. Whitman, and "Water Tube Boilers," by Darwin Almy.

It was the general concensus of opinion that some improvements were needed in every style of marine boiler extant. Various faults were pointed out in the boilers now in use. A boiler of durable and improved type, as stable and durable as the locomotive boiler, it was stated, is an imperative demand, and inventors should turn their attention to the subject.

Mr. John Platt, of New York, at the Saturday afternoon session, read a most interesting description of a boat built in England. It is the hydraulic lifeboat Queen, built by Thornycroft. She is fifty-five feet long, fifteen feet broad and five feet six inches deep, and of thirty tons displacement. Through nozzles nine inches in diameter, a centrifugal pump driven by a steam engine, discharges below the water; two jets which drive the vessel forward, and two placed in the opposite direction are for drawing her astern. By making the jets go in one direction or the other the vessel can be very easily maneuvered, and readily stopped or started. The jets will discharge one ton of water per second when the boat is going nine knots per hour, and on trial it was found possible to run the boat nine and a half knots per hour. The annual meeting was adjourned at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon. All the papers which had not been read, as the time was limited, were ordered printed.

Chief Engr. Harry Webster, U. S. N., presided, and was re-elected president, and P. A. Engr. W. M. McFarland, secretary and treasurer. Chief Engr. G. W. Baird and P. A. Engrs. W. W. White and E. Theiss were elected to the council. The report of the council was very brief, declaring that in the matter of a button or badge for the society, it had been decided to adopt a rosette of gilt and red.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. D. W.—The law prescribes that any officer of the Army who accepts or holds any appointment in the diplomatic or consular service of the Government shall be considered as having resigned his place in the Army and it shall be filled as a vacancy.

RIFLEMAN.—A dry rifle kicks more than a clean one because the incrustations on the barrel interfere with the motion of the bullet, so that more of the energy of the powder is expended on the gun.

G. T. P.—No one knows when the Newark and Chicago will go into commission.

READER.—Arithmetic is not taught at the U. S. Military Academy; a cadet is expected to have a sufficient knowledge of arithmetic when he enters. Mathematical course is confined to algebra, geometry, trigonometry, surveying and the study of differential and integral calculus.

R. C. O.—Grant's troops crossed the Rapidan preliminary to the battle of the Wilderness, marching 25 miles in one day. Crawford's Light Division of Wellington's Army, in 1809, is credited with marching 62 miles in 26 hours, which is one of the longest marches against time in history. The 6th Corps, under Gen. Sedgwick, during the Rebellion, to reach the lines of Meade at Gettysburg, marched 35 miles in 20 hours, and a number of Northern regiments in the Rebellion have records of 40 miles in 20 hours. Frian's division of Davouts Corps marched 80 miles in 48 hours in 1805 to join Napoleon in the battle of Austerlitz. Napoleon marched an army to the relief of Dresden in 1813 by forced marches, 30 miles a day for three days.

BALLARD.—Vacancies in the Signal Corps are usually filled by transfer of non-commissioned officers of the line, after an examination by an officer of the Army. Exceptions are sometimes made in favor of applicants from civil life having special knowledge of balloons, electrical devices, etc.

E.—A bugler is rated in U. S. Navy as a second-class seaman. Carl Fischer, Nos. 6 and 8 Fourth avenue, New York City, has the bugle calls for sale.

CARRIE A. HILL.—After twelve years' service a carpenter, at sea, is paid \$1,800 per annum. A carpenter serving his first term of enlistment receives \$1,200. No Naval Constructors go to sea. Their function is always performed on land. A Naval Constructor is a commissioned officer. An officer's leave begins upon the date of his detachment.

J. H. M. writes: In issue of Dec. 11, in answer to question by B. R., you state that the 1st Sergeant of an infantry company holds the rifle at an order arms while calling the roll. Is Par. 570 of the Cavalry Drill Regulations a tactical error on that point or not? or is it optional with the 1st Sergeant to hold the rifle at an order or right shoulder? and which would be the proper position of the rifle when the carbine sling is worn? Answer—Par. 570, C. D. R., is correct. The 1st Sergeant of a cavalry troop armed with the carbine takes the position of right shoulder when calling the roll, whether the carbine sling is worn or not. The carbine is too short to be held at the order and allow the 1st Sergeant to conveniently see and handle his list while calling the roll.

Lient. E. V. Bookmiller, 9th U. S. Inf., rejoined at Madison Barracks, N. Y., this week from a fortnight's visit to New Haven, Conn.

THE BROOKLYN DRY DOCK.

Augustin Walsh, surviving member of John and Augustin Walsh, contractors, who it is proposed to hold responsible for the failure of the Brooklyn Dry Dock, No. 3, addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Navy on the 14th of January, saying: "Four days after the leak was first observed, in May last, I addressed a letter to the proper bureau in your department, stating that I had determined before the Government went ahead to try to stop the leaks, to offer my services and such skill as I have in any way that you may see fit to make use of them. The matter of compensation I leave entirely to the discretion of the Secretary of the Navy. So far as looking to me or my sureties for any reimbursement, you know quite well that the Government has no claim. The dock has been accepted. Nothing short of fraud on my part in securing the acceptance would obligate me to repay any of the moneys received. I do not understand that you make any charge of fraud. In case that I be mistaken and that you do make a charge of fraud, I beg to state that I am ready to place \$150,000 of unencumbered real estate in this city—taking that figure, as I do, because the amount is the same as the Congressional appropriations—in such situation as may be agreed upon between the U. S. District Attorney and my counsel, so that there can be no question of the collection by the Government of any judgment which it may obtain against me. This offer stands good, provided suit be brought within a reasonable time, say, the next thirty days. May I be permitted to suggest in conclusion, that the folly of building a wooden dry dock, rather than a stone one, of so enormous a size, in ground of the shifty nature that exists in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, has been repeatedly demonstrated. I have been very much surprised that the faults of this dock, whatsoever they may be, should be visited upon my head by the Navy Department at this late date, rather than ascribing them to the nature of the structure or the method of the attempted repairs."

Mr. Walsh has a much better defense than this against a claim for damages and we are surprised that he did not present it. It is in the form of a letter from the Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, which Mr. Walsh has shown about New York. In it Commo. Matthews says in substance: "While it is impossible for the Department to consider your (Mr. Walsh's) proposition to make repairs at this time, it does not appear that the difficulties are due to any faulty workmanship on your part." We presume that Mr. Walsh is reserving this defense, and it will be well for the legal advisers of the Government to consider the legal bearing of this letter before proceeding further. We do not give the whole of Mr. Walsh's letter. It is without value as a defense, for it gives no explanation of the reason why the specifications were not followed. It is sufficient answer to all he says to refer back to the bids received for the work he has so botched from entirely responsible contractors who could and would have put a good wooden dock in the same place. To charge the difficulty to the fact that the dock was of wood is begging the question and is no excuse for poor work. The trouble with the dock is not that it was improperly placed, but was improperly built. Even now the danger is by no means passed. The dock should be flooded and the gates floated to the head of the dock so as to relieve the abutments of the immense weight upon them.

The fortifications sub-committee of the House Appropriations Committee held its first meeting on Thursday. Brig. Gen. Wilson, Chief of Engineers, appeared before the sub-committee, and explained the estimates he had submitted.

The New York monument commission for the battle-fields of Gettysburg and Chattanooga has unanimously concluded to select Edward C. Potter as the sculptor to model the equestrian statue of Maj. Gen. Henry W. Slocum.

Acting Hospital Stewards James H. Boyle, on duty at West Point, and William A. Cross, on duty at Fort Slocum, are slated for promotion to Hospital Stewards in February to fill vacancies caused by the retirement of Hospital Stewards Classman at Jefferson Barracks and Schmidt at San Francisco.

Maj. T. W. Symons, U. S. A., contributes an excellent article to the Buffalo "Commercial," on Capt. Mahan's latest work, entitled "The Interest of America in Steam Power—Present and Future." The "Commercial," which devotes nearly three long columns to this review, says of its author: "Maj. Symons is an officer who has made many friends in Buffalo, and one who graces his profession with his scholarship, and his intelligent treatment and discussion of topics in which this Government has a vital interest."

In answer to a question raised by Capt. Harry Taylor, C. E., U. S. A., the new Assistant Controller, L. P. Mitchell, decides that the Northern Pacific Railroad is entitled to its regular rates for transportation of civilian employees engaged on river and harbor work, but to only 50 per cent. of the regular rates in the case of those engaged on fortifications. He adds that when transportation requests are furnished payments on this basis may be made direct to the railroad company.

The Government has paid \$250,000 for about 63 acres of land on the summit of Cushing Hill and Battery Heights, Boston. It is the intention to erect there a battery of heavy guns for coast defense. Peddock's Island, near by, has also been purchased for the same purpose, and when these three points are fully fortified the guns will command every approach to Boston Harbor and most of Massachusetts Bay from Point Allerton to Cape Ann. The deep well on the summit, dug by Washington's troops, probably will be preserved.

It appears from the decision of Mr. Long, Secretary of the Navy, that the critics of the system of fireproofing the joiner work in warships have met with a crushing defeat. The Secretary, in his full decision, endorses the wood for deck purposes as well as for the fittings of torpedo boats. He gives his reasons for not using the wood for those two purposes, but those reasons do not touch the desirability of fireproof wood for uses under discussion. This must be gratifying to the feelings of the officer who wrote the minority report. Sec'y Long says: "After a careful consideration of the question as to the advantages derived from the use of electro fireproof wood on naval vessels, it is decided that no electro fireproof wood shall hereafter be used for the decking of naval vessels, as the advantages that might be derived from the use of such wood are incommensurate with the cost of the same; that its use on torpedo boats now under construction be discontinued, as there is so little woodwork on them; also that electro fireproof wood shall be used in all joiner work of the new battleships, as provided in the specifications accompanying the contract therefor, as the advantages to be derived from its use for such purpose would seem to justify the increased cost incident thereto."

LEAGUE ISLAND YARD.

The joint committee of Philadelphia councils and representatives of commercial bodies of that city presented the claims of League Island Navy Yard to a sub-committee of the Naval Affairs Committee, Jan. 20. Comdr. E. S. Houston, U. S. N., in charge of the station, appeared with the sanction of the Secretary of the Navy and made a strong plea for improvements at League Island. He said that he did not have language strong enough to express his opinion of the needed improvements at that station. Next to having a Navy the highest need was a fresh water harbor in which the Navy could be laid up in time of peace. The economy of such a basin was apparent to all. In his opinion there was no place on the Atlantic coast so well adapted for this fresh water basin as the back channel at League Island. It needs some improvement, and for the good of the whole country the improvement should be made permanent by building solid stone retaining walls from the mouth of the channel up to Broad street. It should be made an artificial basin instead of a channel subject to wash and drift. There should be docking facilities for the largest vessels that would be laid up in the basin. Then there should be a thirty-foot channel to the mouth of the Delaware, so that large battleships and all vessels of the Navy could reach deep water from this rendezvous within a few hours. Chairman Hilborn questioned Comdr. Houston with regard to the plans of League Island station and offered the suggestion that the new dry dock, if ever built, should be located east of the present dock, instead of west, as is now proposed. The Commander said that the present location had been selected by a Naval board. "Oh," said Mr. Hilborn, "I am tired hearing about Naval boards," a remark that caused some amusement.

Lieut. Comdr. Delehaney, U. S. N., the newly elected Governor of Sailors' Snug Harbor, Staten Island, took formal possession of the office Jan. 20, after delivering an address to the old salts in the music hall of the institution. Governor Delehaney was received well, and before he could begin his speech was cheered roundly by the 700 old sailors who had waited an hour for his coming.

According to advices received at the Navy Department, the fulfillment of the plan for the increase of the German Navy will place Germany ahead of both Russia and the United States in naval strength. The United States and Germany are now tied for fifth place among the naval powers of the world. The German programme extends over a period of seven years, during which it is proposed to expend upon the Navy in the neighborhood of \$200,000,000. Germany has a rule that when a ship becomes unfit for further service another vessel is to be built immediately and to receive the same name.

The memory of that gallant cavalry officer, the late Gen. Ranald S. Mackenzie, is recalled by a sketch of him in the "Cavalry Journal" by Capt. A. H. Dorst, 4th U. S. Cav., who says: "Braver than a lion, yet sensitive and gentle as a woman—uncompromising, determined and just, yet kind, generous and deeply sympathetic with humanity in every walk of life—impetuous, impulsive and dashing, yet modest, diffident and simple—he was chivalrous, warm, loyal and pure, without fear and without reproach, with a great mind and a great soul, a grand soldier, a refined gentleman, and an exalted type of that noblest work of God, an honest man. The example of such a life can never be lost in death."

Col. C. H. Alden, U. S. A., Asst. Surg. Gen., has been appointed chairman of the Literary Committee of the Military Surgeon's Association, which will meet at Kansas City, June 1 next. A number of valuable and interesting papers have been promised for the programme by officers of the Army and Navy and National Guards.

Prof. Albert Cushing Crehore, of Dartmouth College, on Wednesday night read before the Franklin Institute at Philadelphia, a report to the Postmaster General of experiments made in England last summer by himself and 1st Lieut. G. O. Squier, 3d Art., U. S. A., with the synchronograph, a recent invention for the rapid transmission of intelligence by the alternating current. According to the report the experiments were successful and it is thought it will effect a complete revolution in the method of telegraphy and telephony. The machines as now perfected will send and record 4,000 words a minute.

Mrs. Williston Fish, 5114 Madison avenue, Chicago, gave a reception Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 18, for her brother, Lieut. George H. Cameron, of Fort Walla Walla. Mrs. Fish was assisted in receiving by Mrs. A. C. Mather, Mrs. Thomas M. Hoyne, Mrs. Lyman Tower, Mrs. Hiero B. Herr, Mrs. Heaton Owlesley, Mrs. Hugh T. Reed. A feature of the occasion was a musical programme offered by Mrs. Nellie Bangs-Skelton, Mrs. William Russell, Mrs. Ruth Teleston Bangs, and Mr. Robert Boyce Carson. The presence of a large number of officers from Fort Sheridan imparted a military air to the affair. Among the 250 guests present were: Col. and Mrs. Robert H. Hall, Capt. and Mrs. George O. Webster, Capt. and Mrs. S. A. Wolf, Capt. and Mrs. B. D. Price, Capt. and Mrs. Hugh T. Reed, Gen. and Mrs. Milo S. Hascall, Lieut. and Mrs. A. H. Brown.

The court in the case of Capt. Carter resumed its sittings at Savannah on Wednesday, Jan. 20. Mr. A. S. Cooper, an inspecting engineer, under Capt. Carter, and who is now serving under Capt. Gillette, Capt. Carter's successor, was the only witness examined. When he came to Savannah in 1892 he found mattresses being put in the river to deepen the channel that did not come up to specifications. He was told that they came up fully to the requirements of Capt. Carter and passed them as inspector. Those used cost the contractors, in the opinion of Mr. Cooper, about 9 cents a square yard. To have them built as the Government's specifications required would have cost 22 cents a square yard. Capt. Carter was present frequently when mattresses were sunk that did not come up to specifications. At one time he made an examination of one which had so little brush in it that he got down into it and walked about. He had this mattress sunk because it came up to the requirements of Capt. Carter. Cooper said he was never told to hold the contractors down to the specifications. Written instructions were shown to him where it was said all work must be done according to the contract. He said he could not know whether the work was being done according to contract as he had never seen the contract. One of the items in the estimate for doing the work in the harbor as made out by Mr. Cooper was \$25,000 for lobbying the appropriation bill through Congress. The witness said he had put this in the estimate because he understood that it cost the contractors that much to get the bill through Congress.

Mrs. Isabel Johnson, widow of Capt. Henry Johnson, U. S. A., died Thursday, Jan. 20, 1898, about 7:30 p. m., at her late residence, 34 West 32d street, New York City. Mrs. Johnson was the sister of the late wife of Capt. R. R. Strong, of the 4th U. S. Artillery.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

JAN. 13.—1st Asst. Engr. C. M. Green, directed to proceed to Phenixville, Bethlehem and Coatsville on inspection duty.

JAN. 15.—2d Lieut. H. L. Peckham, detached from the Chase and ordered to the Perry.

Chief Engr. S. H. Magee, ordered to temporary duty on the Morrill.

2d Asst. Engr. D. W. Blake, granted an extension of leave for thirty days.

1st Asst. Engr. C. A. McAllister, directed to proceed to Reading, Pa., on inspection duty.

2d Asst. Engr. J. Q. Walton, directed to proceed to Pittsburgh, Pa., on inspection duty.

JAN. 17.—2d Lieut. G. L. Carden, directed to report at the Department.

2d Lieut. S. B. Winram, detached from the Colfax and placed waiting orders.

JAN. 19.—3d Lieut. R. M. Sturdevant, granted thirty days' leave.

1st Asst. Engr. H. L. Boyd, granted two days' leave.

Cadet J. W. Morse, granted an extension of leave until Feb. 1.

Capt. A. B. Davis, directed to report at the Department.

2d Lieut. H. L. Peckham, directed to report at the Department for examination as to his physical condition.

1st Asst. Engr. E. P. Webber, directed to proceed to Waterbury, Conn., on inspection duty.

2d Lieut. B. M. Chiswell, 2d Asst. Engr. H. D. Glover and 2d Lieut. G. L. Carden, registered at the Department the past week.

The annual report of Capt. Shoemaker has been received from the public printer, and will be issued to the officers of the Revenue Cutter Service during the present week.

Referring to the valuable service rendered by the Revenue cutters, the "Republican Journal," of Belfast, Me., in a recent issue, says: "On this coast many have personal knowledge of the good work done by the Revenue cutters in aiding disabled vessels, in breaking up ice embargoes, etc. In the winter season such work is often difficult and dangerous and calls for an able class of vessels. Capt. Shoemaker says of the 37 vessels in the service two years ago, that there were 19 old wooden hulls, 14 of iron, three of steel and one of iron, wooden-sheathed; and that 'No one of competent judgment will be found who will say that the vessels of the service have at any time within twenty years been calculated for, or fit to perform, the duty done in them. The measure of success obtained has been wholly due to the indefatigable labors of commissioned officers of the service and the faithful trained and disciplined crews.' Within the last three years Congress has authorized the building of seven new vessels, four of which have already been completed and are in all particulars swift modern vessels, and in every way suited to the service. Authority is asked for the construction of five cutters to take the place of some of the old wooden vessels now almost past repairing, and it should be promptly granted."

The following order has been mailed to Commanding Officers of revenue cutters:

"From and after the receipt of this order, you will, upon learning of disasters to vessels, whether within or without the cruising limits of your command, proceed at once and without further orders to the relief of such vessels, whether stranded, or otherwise in distress. Any information locating definitely such disasters will be regarded as sufficient to demand aid from your command. Upon such occasions, you will report your departure in aid, by wire, and submit a detailed report of your operations by mail upon your return to port."

Bishop Nicholson, of Wisconsin, denounces the proposed christening of a battleship with whisky as blasphemous and would not be surprised to find that big battleship, at no very distant day, having started out with a curse upon it, down at the bottom of the ocean. It is evident that the good bishop has no Kentucky blood in his veins. In any case his contention is absurd. To call a ceremony a christening does not make it one, in an ecclesiastical sense, and breaking a bottle over the bow of a vessel is in no sense a parody of Christian customs. Indeed it is a relic from the days of heathenism.

In the House Mr. Hepburn has introduced a bill (H. R. 6824), for the construction of three new vessels for the Revenue Cutter Service. It is the same as S. 3033, published last week. H. R. 6825, introduced by Mr. Hepburn, gives Chief Engineers of the Revenue Cutter Service \$2,100 on duty and \$1,500 while on leave or waiting orders; authorizes the appointment of a Naval Constructor for this service and provides for pensioning the enlisted men by the Revenue Cutter Service "under the same regulations and restrictions as are now provided for enlisted men of the Navy."

The Government Alaska relief expedition, under the supervision of Gen. Merriam, commander of the Department of Columbia, is now fully equipped to leave Portland, Ore., on Feb. 1 on the steamer George W. Elder. The personnel of the expedition includes Capt. Geo. Rublen, in charge of transportation and quartermaster of the expedition; Capt. D. L. Brainard, C. S., in charge of distribution of supplies; Capt. B. Eldridge, 14th Inf., in charge of escort, with Lieut. E. W. Clark, 14th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Guy H. Preston, 9th Cav., in charge of the pack train, with 1st Lieut. J. A. Ryan, 9th Cav., his assistant, and Lieut. F. M. Kemp, Asst. Surg. In all there will be about ninety men in the party. There are 101 mules and nine horses in the pack train.

The Senate bill increasing the pension of the widow of Rear Adm. Queen has been referred to the Pension Committee. Representative Griffin has introduced a resolution granting permission to officers of the Army and Navy to wear the badge adopted by the Association of Military Surgeons. Representative Belden has introduced a bill for the restoration of Samuel E. Steone Chaplain to the retired list as Captain.

In a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Jan. 15, 1898, G. D. Meiklejohn, Acting Secretary of War, quotes the opinions of Maj. Gen. Miles and Col. John I. Rodgers, 5th Art., concerning the increase of the artillery, and the care and preservation of our new fortifications and says: "From the foregoing, it will be seen that the 'most practicable and economical plan for the care and preservation of the fortifications and their armament,' having in view the purposes for which they are provided, is to quarter the artillery force by units of organization (batteries) behind the guns they are to use, as far as the existing force will go, caring for the remainder by suitable detachments from these garrisons. It is apparent that the present authorized strength of the artillery force of the Army is inadequate to the proper care and preservation of the fortifications and their armament and keeping up the necessary preparation to insure the availability and usefulness of the armament when needed."

THE STATE TROOPS.

23d NEW YORK—COL. A. C. SMITH.

Co. A, 23d New York, Capt. Louis Praeger, drilled on Wednesday evening, Jan. 5, 1898, 40 files being present at roll call. The company was formed in its usual prompt and soldierly manner, and turned over in excellent shape. The early part of the evening was devoted to the physical drill and the manual of arms, after which movements in the school of the company were taken up. That this is a well-disciplined company was manifested by the promptness and accuracy with which each and every movement was executed. The length and cadence of the step both in quick and double time, the distances and alignments, were all such as left nothing to be desired. Right by platoons was excellent, also reforming line from column of platoons, both to the right, left, and to the front. It may be stated here that the command for forming line to the front from column of platoons should be changed. Instead of the command being "Form company, left or right oblique," it would be far more sensible to command "Right, or left, front into line." In the school of the battalion, to form line to the front from column of fours, platoons or companies, the command is "Right, or left, front into line." Why not the same in the school of the company? The movements are the same.

On right into line from column of platoons, was very creditably executed. The turnings, by platoon and by company, were all excellent in every respect. The evening's work concluded with a short drill in the extended order, which again demonstrated the ability of the commanding officer, his lieutenants and non-commissioned officers, as well as the men in the ranks. Co. B, Capt. Fred Wells, also drilled on the same evening. Twenty files were present. Perhaps they suffered by being contrasted with one of the best companies in the State, but nevertheless their drill was far from being up to the standard, for some of the movements were executed in a very slipshod manner.

REGULARS AND MILITIA IN VERMONT.

Adj't. Gen. T. S. Peck, of Vermont, published an interesting report of Capt. Herbert E. Tuthery, 1st U. S. Cav., upon the condition of the National Guard of Vermont for the year 1897. Capt. Tuthery reports that of the 90 officers and 726 enlisted men, 94 per cent. of the organized strength attended camp in 1897. He says: "Governor Grout and staff passed the week in camp with the troops, and the President of the United States, accompanied by the Secretary of War, visited the encampment on Governor's Day. Col. Guy V. Henry, commanding the U. S. Cavalry, with headquarters, band and three troops of the regiment and two companies of the 21st U. S. Infantry, encamped with the State troops during the week. Maj. Stephen P. Jocelyn, 19th U. S. Inf., and Lieut. Stephen M. Foote, 4th U. S. Art., also served on the staff of the Governor by invitation. This is the fourth year in succession that a contingent of regular troops has, by War Department orders, joined the State encampment, and the consensus of all reports confirms my own convictions that such an assimilation of military organizations is far-reaching in its benefits." It is advised that all companies when in camp, mess and do field cooking the same as U. S. troops, and that each company be furnished with a Buzzacott oven, and conical wall tent for covering supplies, and camp kettles and mess pans. The equipment of the troops needs replenishing; 50 per cent. of the rifles should be turned in to the National Armory for repairs. The infantry have no shelter tents, blanket bags or meat ration cans. The State has no conical wall tents, common tents or shelter tents. Referring to the annual encampment, Capt. Tuthery states that at the end of the camp week the troops were able to execute all movements in the drill regulations pertaining to a battalion very creditably. Each of three battalions made a practice march, going from three to five miles out from the main encampment, moving with advance guard, rear guard, ambulance and wagon train, making temporary camp and cooking a meal while en route. There was little sickness in camp and the hospital service was efficient. The State owns no ambulance, but one was borrowed from the U. S. Government, for use on practice marches at the encampment. The State has no Signal Corps, and one should

be formed. The discipline of the troops was good. The light battery marched to and from camp; each journey, about thirty-six miles, was made in two days. The condition and appearance of the horses were especially worthy of mention.

The personnel of the command as a whole is excellent and has greatly improved during the past four years. Capt. Tuthery advises that the drills of the encampment be confined to battalion, regimental and brigade movements in conjunction with regular troops so far as practicable; and that these movements comprise, in addition to the ceremonies laid down in the drill regulations, a series of practical field exercises: Elementary training should be worked up at the home station. The Captain says: "I would advise the completion of the facilities for holding the annual encampment on the grounds already purchased by the State adjoining Fort Ethan Allen, that the target range and other facilities belonging to the National Government at that place may be available for the State troops. There is in my opinion a fine opportunity to conduct maneuvers jointly between the two services in this locality, even for more troops than are located within the limits of the State of Vermont. Strategically Essex Junction is the natural place to assemble troops in Vermont, and also from the northern New England States. So well and harmoniously have the National Guard of Vermont and the regular troops stationed on Lake Champlain united and assimilated instruction upon the lines of practical soldiering during the past few years that I think a more extensive plan in this direction worthy of consideration."

69th NEW YORK—COL. GEO. M. SMITH.

As we predicted some time ago, the level-headed element in Co. D, 69th Regiment, N. G., N. Y., have elected Lieut. Putnam Bradlee Strong to the Captaincy, despite the most strenuous efforts for his defeat. No stone was left unturned by the opposition to win the day, and circulars calculated to fire the hearts of Irishmen against the selection of a worthy and ambitious young American were sent out, and house-to-house canvas made also. It was simply a fight between class sentiment on one side, and progress on the other. It is regretted that all the line officers of the regiment but four should have been so carried away by false sentiment as to endeavor to interfere in a company election and help opposition. The men of the 69th realize that they are far better off to-day, than they were under the old régime of incompetent saloon-keepers, when a Captain could enlist 40 of his friends on one night, to vote for his candidate, and discharge them the next day, and when for some twenty-five years the constitution of the United States was openly violated by fining men because they did not attend church. The rights of the men are now respected and the regiment is to-day in better condition than it ever was.

It is not true, as has been charged, that Col. Smith interfered with the election. Even the opposition finally recognized the fairness of the Colonel in conducting it. He allowed a latitude in appealing for votes right up to the polls, which would not have been tolerated in any other regiment, and when some of the Strong men desired to have the canvassers of votes for McCrystal put out of the room, Col. Smith ordered that they should remain and be permitted to canvass and argue in an orderly manner as much as they pleased. Nothing could have been fairer. There were naturally a few not heads.

The report that Col. Smith was making a canvass for Capt. Strong last Sunday is of course as false as the report that one buxom Irish lass in a tenement house tried to throw a pot of hot water over him. Adj't. McClinton, also shows no scars on his handsome face from a blackthorn in the hands of a lively daughter of Erin, a McCrystalite, as report stated he had suffered while on a hunt for Strong votes. He made no canvass nor did he offer ten cents for a vote, much less ten dollars. It is, of course, generally speaking, decidedly against the interests of the service to elect an officer of so limited experience as Capt.-elect Strong, and all officers should be selected as far as possible from men of ripe experience. Under the circumstances, however, the selection in question is a good one.

The 7th New York will be reviewed in its armory on Thursday evening, Jan. 27, by Col. Wm. Seward, of the 9th Regiment. A presentation of State long-service medals will be made during the ceremonies.

REVISING THE NEW YORK CODE.

The Board appointed in the New York Guard to revise the Military Code of the State, has made good progress and is to be congratulated on its work. The recommendations of the Board are in the right direction and should be adopted. The recommendations in brief are as follows: 1. A Governor's staff to consist of one Adjutant General, with the rank of Brigadier General; a military secretary, with rank of Captain, and ten Aides-de-Camp, to be selected from executive officers of the Guard below the rank of Colonel and with no increase of rank.

2. Officers appointed to be Aides-de-Camp are not to be relieved from duty with their organizations, but are to act with the Governor when he requires. 3. There shall be a Major General, who shall have charge of the Guard and shall appoint a proper staff to assist him. He will be appointed by the Governor. 4. The Governor's designation of Aides-de-Camp will expire when his time expires. 5. The Board will set a limit of service, so that there will not be life tenure of office.

8th NEW YORK—COL. H. CHAUNCEY.

The 8th Regiment, New York, Col. Chauncey, will give an interesting illustration at the armory on Friday evening, Jan. 28, of what a day at the State Camp is like, introducing a number of special features. Camp life from reveille until taps will be illustrated, with its varied drills and work, fun, etc., and to add further to the interest of the occasion, the second battery, and the cadet corps of Squadron A will take part, and a reception will follow the illustration of camp life.

The staff of Governor Black, of New York, will tender him a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York City, on Monday evening, Jan. 31. Following the dinner, all the officers of the National Guard of the State will be invited to meet the Governor at a reception.

PATRIOTIC ARIZONA.

Adj't. Gen. Lewis of Arizona, in orders dated Dec. 15, 1897, says: "Patriotism and sovereignty being symbol— (Continued on page 392)

If you have never tasted Cook's Imperial you don't know what good Champagne is. It's extra dry, flavor fine.

Dr. Sieger's ANGOSTURA BITTERS, appetizer and invigorator, imparts a delicious flavor to all drinks, and cures Dyspepsia, Diarrhea, Fever and Ague.

MARRIED.

KENT—GRACE.—At New York City, Jan. 12, 1898. Mr. George E. Kent, formerly Naval Cadet, U. S. N., to Miss L. J. Grace.

KING—SUMNER.—At Fort Grant, Ariz., Jan. 18, 1898. Lieut. Edward Leonard King, 7th U. S. Cav., to Miss Nancy Rose Sumner, daughter of Col. Edwin V. Sumner, 7th Cav.

WEEKS—ALEXANDER.—At New York City, Jan. 19, 1898. Mr. Arthur Delano Weeks, to Miss Minelle Louise Alexander, daughter of Col. Charles T. Alexander, U. S. A.

DIED.

AUGUR.—At Washington, D. C., Jan. 16, 1898. Bvt. Maj. Gen. Christopher Colon Augur, Brig. Gen., U. S. A., retired.

BRUNE.—At Baltimore, Md., Jan. 8, 1898. Mrs. F. W. Brune, sister of the wife of Maj. Charles R. Barnett, Q. M., U. S. A.

LOCKETT.—At the Presidio of San Francisco, Dec. 31, 1897. Marjorie, beloved child of Helen Grant and Capt. James Lockett, 4th U. S. Cav., aged 3 years 7 months and 17 days.

SHAFTER.—At San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 14, 1898. Mrs. Harriet Shafter, wife of Brig. Gen. William Rufus Shafter, U. S. A.

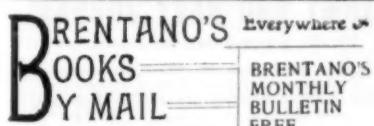
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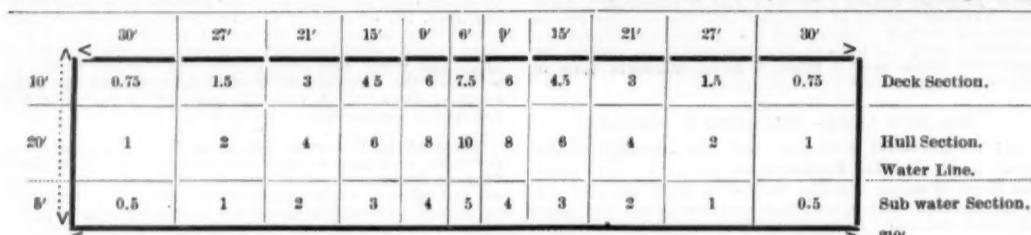
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ized by our country's flag, and these sentiments being characteristic of the National Guard of Arizona, therefore, it is ordered that: The national flag be displayed at full staff on all armories throughout the Territory, from sunrise to sunset on Washington's and Lincoln's birthday, Labor Day, Arbor Day, and the Fourth of July, and at half staff on Memorial Day, from sunrise to meridian, and afterwards on that day at full staff until sunset. The day on which any portion of the National Guard of Arizona drills or engages in any public parade or ceremony, the national flag will be displayed at full staff, from sunrise to sunset on the armories of the commands. In announcing the resignation of Lieut. Col. A. J. Doran, 1st Regt., the Commander-in-Chief extends his sincere thanks to Col. Doran for the interest he has always displayed in the welfare of the Guard, and expresses his appreciation of the valuable aid rendered it by Col. Doran on many occasions.

MASSACHUSETTS ARTILLERY PRACTICE.

The following shows the standard target for coast artillery target practice, 210 feet by 35 feet, representing broadside of a battleship:



In target practice at Fort Warren, by the Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Aug. 9 to Aug. 14, 1897, the following scores were made:

Batteries.	At Fixed Target		At Moving Target		Total Score
	No. of Hits.	Value	No. of Hits.	Value	
A	2	11	1	3	3
B	1	3	1	1	4
C	1	1.5	1	10	11.5
D	1	3	1	3	3
E	2	9.5	1	9.5	9.5
F	1	10	1	10	10
G	2	8	1	8	8
H	1	10	1	4	14
I	2	12	1	12	12
J	2	16	1	7.5	23.5
K	2	9.5	2	9.5	19
M	2	9.5	2	9.5	19
Totals	17	93.5	8	36	129.5

Total number of shots fired at fixed target, 36; percentage of hits, 47.29; total number of shots fired at moving target, 24; percentage of hits, 33%; the range of fixed target varied from 3,900 to 4,000 yards; the range of moving target varied from 2,700 to 4,100 yards.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Brig. Gen. Bancroft, of the 2d Brigade of Massachusetts, has issued the following circular of questions to all the staff officers in his brigade, answers to which must be sent in before Feb. 1 next:

"The Massachusetts regulations state that it is an essential qualification of a staff officer that he should ride well. Why is it an essential qualification?

"Give the position of the soldier mounted and the considerations upon which the position is based.

"Give the military forms of speech which should be used by a staff officer in transmitting an oral communi-

cation or order of his commanding officer. Ditto, a written communication or order.

"Define—1, front; 2, flank; 3, right; 4, left; 5, center; 6, disposition; 7, distance; 8, interval; 9, echelon; 10, flank attack; 11, flank march; 12, advance guard; 13, rear guard; 14, line; 15, column; 16, ploy; 17, deploy; 18, initial velocity; 19, trajectory; 20, line of sight; 21, line of fire; 22, flatness of the trajectory; 23, first catch; 24, first grazie; 25, dangerous zone; 26, angle of fall; 27, an eye for ground; 28, position; 29, containing force; 30, to form front to flank; 31, terrain; 32, bivouac; 33, base of operations; 34, communications; 35, strategy; 36, logistics; 37, tactics; 38, cordon system of outposts; 39, patrol system of outposts; 40, vedette; 41, outpost sentinel; 42, picket; 43, support; 44, reserve; 45, examining post; 46, detached post; 47, Cossack post; 48, police guard; 49, grand guards; 50, organization; 51, equipment; 52, subsistence; 53, discipline; 54, fire discipline.

"An eminent military writer says: 'The duties of the staff are to relieve the commanding officer from all distracting details, leaving him free to form and execute plans for whose results he must bear the entire responsibility. To accomplish this object, they are to obtain information upon all matters affecting their own departments, to sift, condense and arrange it for

every one interested that improvement may be still more marked in succeeding years, until the National Guard of Maine may be looked upon as a model for all other States.'

The order issued Dec. 22 from the A. G. O., State of Pennsylvania, revoking the commission of John R. Goode as 2d Lieutenant of Co. H, 10th Regiment, N. G. P., has stirred up a big row. For the last year friction has existed in Co. H, and finally Col. A. L. Hawkins, commanding the 10th Regiment, approved a recommendation made by Capt. A. M. Porter for the dismissal of Lieut. Goode, on the ground that he did not properly perform his duties and created discord among his men. Col. Hawkins said: "I believe the statements made by Capt. Porter are true, that the retention of Lieut. Goode, as an officer in this company, has been, and will be, an injury to the service, and that his influence is directed toward the disintegration of the company."

The Maryland Naval Reserves have asked the Secretary of the Navy to give them another ship in place of the Dale, preferably the monitor Miantonomoh. The Secretary, however, has replied that the Miantonomoh, which is now in reserve, cannot be spared even temporarily, and that there is no vessel except the Dale available for the Maryland Naval Militia.

Brig. Gen. Harries, who was a short time since appointed Commander of the District of Columbia Militia, announces the following staff: Capt. James E. Bell, I. R. P., 2d Regt., to be Inspector General of Rifle Practice; Capt. Henry H. Parmenter, Quartermaster General; Frank Lloyd Averill, Chief of Engineers; Charles Frederick Cook, Aide-de-camp, with the rank of Captain. Gen. Harries also announces that the troop of cavalry recently mustered is designated as Troop A. The Manual of Physical Drill, U. S. A., by 1st Lieut. Edmund L. Butts, 21st U. S. Inf., is prescribed for use in the National Guard of the District of Columbia.

In connection with the many rumors that have been going around concerning the election of two Brigade Commanders in New York City in the event of the 1st Brigade being split up in two, Col. Franklin Bartlett, of the 22d Regt., who, it is considered, has an equal chance of election with other Colonels, in conversation with a representative of the "Army and Navy Journal" declared he desired it understood he was not a candidate, and would not accept the place if elected, much preferring to remain at the head of the 22d rather than receive the silver star of a Brigadier.

The Inspector General's report of New York for 1897 states that the 2d Signal Corps, Capt. Hedge, is in a very satisfactory condition. The armory was very clean and neat and all property is well cared for in all respects. The lockers were handsomely dressed. The Hospital Corps is fully equipped. The percentage for the year, 89.61.

Capt. Peter Leary, Jr., D. 4th U. S. Art., Fort McHenry, lectured on "Outpost Duty" to officers of the 4th Maryland Regiment at West Armory, Baltimore, on the night of Jan. 15. The address was by request of Lieut. Col. J. Frank Supplee, in command of the 4th during the absence of Col. Howard. After the lecture Col. Supplee entertained the officers and guests at supper. Among the guests were Brig. Gen. Riggs, Col. Joseph B. Phipps, Col. John S. Saunders, Maj. Charles R. Spence, Maj. Frank Cole and Maj. C. V. Starkloff, all of the brigade staff; Lieut. Thomas B. Lamoreux, 4th U. S. Art.; Marshal of Police Samuel T. Hamilton, Maj. N. M. Rittenhouse and Mr. Alexander Falconer, of the 5th Regiment Veteran Corps.

Adj't. Gen. Peck, of Vermont, announces that Col. George H. Bond, Bvt. Brig. Gen., an officer of long and distinguished service, including service in the War of the Rebellion, has been placed on the retired list, upon his own application. In concluding the record of Gen. Bond, Gen. Peck says: "Bvt. Brig. Gen. Bond carries with him into his retirement the satisfaction of a long tour of service faithfully performed, not only in the defense of his country during the war, but later as a pri-

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vate, non-commissioned officer, company and field officer in the Vermont National Guard."

Col. Greene, of the 71st Regiment, New York, is not in favor of the Guard taking up instruction in heavy artillery. The opinion of the Colonel is a valuable one, and is as follows: "The National Guard, in my opinion, has all it can do in drilling as infantry. It must be borne in mind that National Guardsmen have to work for a living, that they have only the evenings available for drill, with a week every other year at camp. They cannot practice as heavy artillery men in the forts at night, and they certainly cannot go there by day, and a week's instruction every other year would amount to nothing in making skilled gunners to meet a foreign foe, and in gaining a sufficient knowledge of the manipulation and the intricate mechanism of the new seacoast guns. The State, in my opinion, does about all that it can be reasonably expected to do in furnishing some 13,000 Guardsmen, and the Army should be increased sufficiently to furnish the number of men required to man the forts and care for the Ordnance. Of course it would be a good thing if the National Guard could do the work of regulars, but I do not see how they can."

Referring to the School of Instruction of Officers of the Vermont National Guard, the Burlington "Free Press and Times" of Jan. 14 says: "Probably no school of officers of the National Guard has been more instructive than that held this week at St. Johnsbury. The fact that three officers of the United States Army were present made itself plainly manifest. Maj. Jocelyn, of the 19th, and 1st Lieut. Hovey, of the 24th U. S. Inf., had charge of the officers of the 1st Regiment, and Lieut. Bailey, of the 1st U. S. Art., was on duty with the officers of the 1st Light Battery. Since Maj. Jocelyn was ordered on duty with the Vermont National Guard by order of the Secretary of War last September, he has won the high esteem of the entire National Guard, and Vermont is fortunate in having the benefit of his services. She is also fortunate in having the assistance of Lieuts. Hovey and Bailey, who kindly offered their services at the late school."

The Old Guard of New York, in command of Maj. Briggs, left its old armory, at 14th street and Sixth avenue, on Jan. 15, amid appropriate ceremonies, and escorted by the 9th Regiment and 2d Battery, marched up Fifth avenue to 37th street, to Broadway and 49th street, where the new quarters are located. Parading with the Old Guard were delegations of officers from different organizations, to do honor to the occasion. The

parading column received an ovation along the route, and made a most handsome appearance. At the new armory the Old Guardsmen and guests found suitable commissary stores all ready to serve, and to which they did ample justice after the long march through the muddy and slippery streets, and many bumpers were filled to the memories of the old home, and success in the new as well as to the hosts of friends of the organization, who will be present at the grand annual ball to be held in the Metropolitan Opera House, Tuesday evening, Jan. 25.

There will be a championship bicycle race meet at the 13th Regiment Armory, Summer, Putnam and Jefferson avenues, Brooklyn, N. Y., Saturday night, Jan. 22, under the auspices of the 13th Regiment Bicycle Corps. The amateur events are: 1-mile championship National Guard, of Greater New York, open only to members of regiments in Greater New York; 1-mile championship, 13th Regiment Bicycle Corps; 1/2-mile handicap amateur; 2-mile handicap amateur; 1-mile novice amateur. There will also be a number of other special attractions.

The drill floor of the 9th Regiment Armory of New York is universally admired not only for its system of construction, which gives a solidity and deadness of sound found in no other armory hereabouts, but for the fine appearance of the floor; produced by a dressing of floor oil. This oil is also used throughout the building with the most beneficial results, and Col. Seward in speaking of the matter says: "The wax gloss floor oil used throughout the new 9th Regiment Armory gives the most perfect satisfaction. It has been tested some months now and it accomplishes all that was said for it. While it gives the floors and galleries a finished appearance, that which especially commends it is the fact that no dust arises when sweeping. One can hardly realize this until they have ocular demonstration of the fact. I cannot speak too highly of its utility as demonstrated in the armory and can most unhesitatingly commend it for similar use anywhere."

Co. B, 23d Regiment, New York, will celebrate its 37th anniversary, by a theatre party and dinner on the evening of Jan. 22.

It has been officially decided that the annual inspections and musters in the New York Guard this year will take place on such dates and hours as the Inspector General may select, and that he will specify the uniform to be worn. He is also authorized to inspect the drills of organizations at such times, and in such manner as he may deem proper, and further can at the time of annual inspection, inspect such property submitted to him as

unserviceable, and may make such recommendations as he may deem proper regarding it.

Co. D, 12th New York, by electing Lieut. S. S. Stabbins Captain in place of Barnard, resigned, has shown good judgment, and will gain an accomplished young officer, who is also a phenomenal rifle shot.

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Among the large number of prominent passengers on the Limited were the delegates to the Fishery Congress, at Tampa, Fla., from the States of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia. For particulars, regarding the routes to Florida and the South, call on or address Alex. S. Thweatt, Eastern Passenger Agent, 271 Broadway, New York.

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